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DEKALB COUNTY INDIANA

H. Earl Husselman

1891-1970

Compiled by Kathleen Vose, John Houlton Chapter, DAR,
and DeKalb County Historical Society, 1983.

Former three-term commissioner, H. Earl Husselman, dead at 79

AUBURN — A prominent DeKalb County farmer H. Earl Husselman, Rt. 2, Waterloo, died in Dr. Bonnell M. Souder Hospital at 2 p.m. Monday at the age of 79.

A lifetime resident of DeKalb County, Mr. Husselman was born in Grant Township March 31, 1891, to Adam and Amy (McCague) Husselman.

He had been in failing health for the last nine years and entered the hospital two weeks before his death.

Mr. Husselman had been identified with the Grant Township farming community for many years. An active Republican he was elected DeKalb County Commissioner in 1956 and served three terms.

He also served on the DeKalb County Fair Board for 10 years before being elected president of the association in 1952 and again re-elected in 1953.

In January, 1919, Mr. Husselman married Delia Miller of Fairfield Township. The couple celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1969.

Surviving in addition to the widow are three children, Lloyd, Rt. 2, Waterloo; Mrs. Martin (Bonnie) Christlieb, Rt. 3, Angola; and Mrs. Robert (Betty) Dilgard, Rt. 3, Auburn; a sister Mrs. Viola Johnson, 1226 Jackson St., Auburn; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Mr. Husselman was considered an authority on local history, having written many articles on pioneer living.

In 1953 he authored a series of articles on DeKalb County history for The Shopper's Guide, a publication by the Auburn Retail Merchants Association.

Mr. Husselman was a member of the Indiana Historical Society. His family's history goes back to the Revolutionary War, when George Husselman first came to America. Descendants of George Husselman established themselves in the wilds of DeKalb County in 1839.

Mr. Husselman was a 50-year member of DeKalb Lodge 214 F.& A.M. and a longtime member of Odd Fellows Lodge 591 in Auburn. He attended Cedar Lake Church of Christ.

Funeral services for Mr. Husselman will be conducted at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Gerig Funeral Home, Auburn, with the Rev. Robert Newhard, pastor of the Cedar Lake Church of Christ, officiating. Burial will follow in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Friends may call at the funeral home after 2 p.m. Wednesday.

Dec 1970

AUBURN SHOPPERS GUIDE - ARTICLES BY H. EARL HUSSELMAN

VOLUME I - 1953

1 - 2 - No. 2 - March
CAMP SITES NEAR-BY

3 - 5 - No. 3 - April
INDIAN'S BODY FOUND ON MYRON MARKELY FARM
PLOW UNEARTHS CASKET

6 - 8 - No. 4 - May
TOWN OF ORANGEVILLE LAID OUT ON ST. JOE RIVER
DEKALB'S FIRST TOWN

9 - 11 - No. 5 - June
COMMUNITY LIFE BOOMED IN SEDAN
1870 BIG YEAR

12 - 14 - No. 6 - July
THERE IS MORE TO THE SEDAN STORY

15 - 16 - No. 7 - August
THE STORYS AND INDIANS REACH AGREEMENT

17 - 20 - No. 8 - September
DEKALB FAIR HAS COLORFUL HISTORY

21 - 22 - No. 8 - September
THERE'S MORE TO THE FAIRFIELD STORY

23 - 25 - No. 9 - October
SHERIFF THREATENS TO JAIL PRESIDING JUDGE
STRANGE TWIST TO EARLY DEKALB JUSTICE

26 - 27 - No. 10 - November
CLAIMS POPULATION JUSTIFIES MOVE

28 - 29 - No. 11 - December
WATERPOWER SAW MILL BRINGS BUSINESS TO WATERLOO
JAMES BOWMAN ENTERPRISING BUILDER

VOLUME II - 1954

30 - 32 - No. 1 - January
WATERLOO ORGANIZES VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRST FIREMEN IN DEKALB COUNTY

33 - 35 - No. 2 - February
$24,180 BUYS LAND FOR GARRETT DEVELOPMENT
BALTIMORE COMPANY CLOSES DEAL

36 - 38 - No. 3 - March
RIVER BOATS SUPPLY SPENCERVILLE SETTLEMENT FROM FORT WAYNE
NO ROADS AVAILABLE FOR FIRST SETTLERS

39 - 40 - No. 4 - April
ELECTION INVOLVING CONCORD-SPENCER-FISH CREEK ILLEGAL - NEW ELECTION HELD

41 - 42 - No. 5 - May
DR. NUESBAUM MAKES CALLS IN NEW HORSELESS CARRIAGE
THE CONCORD-SPENCER HISTORY CONTINUED

43 - 44 - No. 6 - June
ISAAC SMITH WALKS 480 MILES TO FILE FOR LAND
ISAAC SMITH WALKS EIGHT ROUND TRIPS TO FORT WAYNE

45 - 46 - No. 7 - July
THERE IS MORE TO THE SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP STORY
TOWN OF ASHLEY PLATTED IN 1892

47 - 48 - No. 8 - August
ALMON CHAFFIE NAMED POSTMASTER OF TURKEY CREEK
A HISTORY OF SALEM TOWNSHIP

49 - 50 - No. 9 - September
TURKEY CREEK RANGERS NAME HENRY WRIGHT PRESIDENT

51 - 53 - No. 10 - October
FUTURE VICE PRESIDENT OF U.S.A. MARRIES SALEM CENTER GIRL
LOIS KIMSEY BECOMES BRIDE OF YOUNG LAWYER MARSHALL

54 - 55 - No. 11 - November
CANADA SOUTHERN RAILROAD BRINGS BUSINESS BOOM
NEW ENTERPRISE FOR HUDSON

56 - 58 - No. 12 - December
TWO MORE DEKALB COUNTY TOWNS DISAPPEAR
ARTIC AND CONCORD GOOD TOWNS IN HORSE AND BUGGY DAYS

59 - 66 - INDEX

CAMP SITES NEAR-BY

Before the advent of the white man this territory that is now DeKalb County, along with other northern Indiana counties, was covered with a vast forest. Giant oaks, poplars, hickories, ash, elm, walnut and various other trees common to this latitude grew in all their native majesty.

Some of these trees attained immense size, straight as a line and grew to heights of 60 to 70 feet or more without a limb and sound to the heart's core.

When the early settlers began to arrive the demand for more land caused these sentinels of the forest to fall before the woodman's axe and to perish in the burning log heap. Sugar maple was exceptionally plentiful and they furnished the pioneers with thousands of gallons of maple syrup and large quantities of sugar.

Those giant trees disappeared many years ago. One of the last big trees of the county was cut about the turn of the century on the Samuel Miser farm in Richland Township now owned by Bernard Lockwood. The twelve foot long butt log of this giant poplar contained 1,200 feet of lumber.

Almost every county is rich in history and tradition about the red men who lived here but little more than a century ago. Much of this history is unknown to the present generation. To us it is not only interesting but it is important history as well.

When the early settlers arrived they found this magnificent forest occupied by the once powerful tribe of Potawatomi Indians. These Indians were very peaceable as far as the whites were concerned because their quarrels were usually among themselves, and we have no record where the Indians ever harmed anyone within what is now DeKalb County. In fact, they were found to be honorable and trustworthy by the early settlers.

These Indians had no villages in DeKalb County as far as is known but they did camp at various places to hunt game and gather wild fruit and nuts. Between the years of 1833 and 1838 bands of these people wandering from place to place became quite well known to the early settlers. In selecting a camp site it seems they usually chose a south or east slope.

One of these camping places was on the Ed Dummer farm in Grant Township close to a large spring, at the first four corners west of Waterloo on old No. 6. Not many years back some of the older inhabitants remember the chopping block

and other traces of Indian camp life. It is said that wild plums grew in abundance near this camp.

The Indian chopping block was made from hard wood and was used to clean and prepare wild game. It was put into round or square or any other desired shape by burning.

Other camp sites were on the George Sherwood farm, Thompson farm and the Lester Rempis farm, all in Smithfield Township.

At the latter place many pieces of Indian pottery have been picked up. It is said that the Indians met here in large numbers in the springtime and extracted the sap from the giant maple trees that grew on the rich uplands of that vicinity and boiled it down into syrup and sugar in pottery that was of their own manufacture, made from blue clay. By digging a hole in a little more than a foot deep and four or five feet wide and any length desired and building a fire therein and then placing their pottery container in the fire, they could cook their venison or boil the maple sap with fairly good success. They would sometimes put stones in the fire so as to hold heat a long time.

There was also a large Indian camp near Story Lake in Fairfield Township. Perhaps the most favorite place for an Indian camp was along the St. Joe river in the southeast part of the county. It was here that many Miami Indians camped as well as the Potawatomi..

The Indians possessed no wheeled vehicles and therefore found the trail sufficient for their use. Between their villages and camps were well beaten traces or trails that followed the high ground. Many of our roads and highways today follow in the main Indian trails. Road 27 and the angling road running northwest out toward Feagler's Corners were both Indian trails intersected somewhere on north Main street where Auburn now is. The trail then followed along in a northwesterly direction to Miami Town (Fort Wayne).

We therefore follow daily not only the same roads as our ancestors but the older trails of the red men who preceded them.

INDIAN'S BODY FOUND ON MYRON MARKLEY FARM

PLOW UNEARTHS CASKET

The first adventurous pioneer who invaded the region of what is now DeKalb County with the purpose of making the then wilderness his permanent home, was John Houlton, registering his claim in the U.S. Land Office at Fort Wayne on September 3rd, 1833. This forty acre tract was located on Fish Creek, section one of Franklin Township. It is now owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Myron Markley. It is on the Bellfountain Road about two miles east of Hamilton and a little west of the covered bridge.

Mr. Houlton was a native of Highland County, Ohio, and in his boyhood days had as his playmates mostly Indian boys and girls. In 1827 he came to Williams County, Ohio, and worked for his older brother Samuel in a saw mill. He was married to Sarah Fee, February 5th, 1833, and the following September they took their three hired men, a yoke of oxen, a cross cut saw and a fro (a tool half way between hatchet and axe) and came to the forty acres which he had entered just the day before and in four days raised and covered the first house ever erected in DeKalb County.

The house was made of round logs, one and one half stories high and twenty feet square. Mr. Houlton's nearest neighbors were ten miles to the east in Williams County, Ohio, at a place called Denmark which was mostly an Indian village. Just a few white people resided there. His neighbor to the west was on Jackson Prarie, twenty two miles away. It was at the latter place that he often went to obtain flour. This required about four days, depending on the weather conditions. During such times Mrs. Houlton stayed alone although wild animals and Indians roamed the forest at will. At one time, during the absence of Mr. Houlton, three Indians walked into the house and demanded "bish", meaning whiskey. They became so persistant that Mrs. Houlton was forced to use a black snake whip on them by lashing them on the legs. She always kept this black snake whip hanging on the cabin wall for any emergency. She was never afraid of the Indians.

By the conditions of a treaty with the Potawatomie tribe, the 6th of August in 1838 was the time agreed on for their removal to their new reservations beyond the Mississippi. Col. A. C. Pepper, the Indian agent at Fort Wayne, was in charge of their removal. Quite a number of the Indians refused to go to their new homes and the government was compelled to remove them by force. The Indians clung to their homes with the tenacity of despair and a display of armed force was necessary to prevent an outbreak. Mrs. Houlton was one who helped line up the Indians. Col. Pepper sent

her as far east as Edgerton, Ohio. She became known as the "Woman Indian Driver". The removal of the Indians was a sad but necessary procedure. Some were on foot, some on horse back and the older ones in wagons. It is said that many deaths occured along the route.

By 1840, save here and there a straggler, the Indians had departed, their lands left to the incoming whites and their occupation of this territory a matter of history. Mr. Houlton often told of an Indian camp near their home, about one fourth mile east in a white oak grove of about four acres. One summer an unusually large number of Indians came, Mr. Houlton estimated about 600, and during this time their old chief became very ill and in a few days died. Mr. and Mrs. Houlton were present at the burial of this chief. A section of a walnut log was split in two pieces and from one a trough was hollowed out into which the body of the chief was placed, together with his gun and many trinkets of more or less value. A shallow grave was dug in the forest on Mr. Houlton's land and the hollow log containing the body was placed in the grave, covered with the other half log. The whole covered with dirt, apparently to rest there until resurrection day. But not so! For with the clearing away of the forest came the washing and changing of the surface of the ground.

One day, when one of the Houlton boys was plowing in the field the sharp point of his plow caught the cover of the crude coffin and exposed to view all that remained of the old chieftain. The skeleton and the rusty gun alone gave evidence of the years that had passed since the grave was first made. The interior of the trough was apparently in as good a state of preservation as when placed there many years before. Mr. Houlton was a man who had respect for a dead Indian so he and his son dug a new grave and to the day of their death, kept the secret of its location, although they had from time to time been offered money to reveal the secret and permit the grave to be opened.

Mr. and Mrs. Houlton were very congenial people and the latch string was always out. It is said that they had a twelve foot table always set and ready for travelers or immigrants traveling through looking for a place to establish a home. They would sometimes feed a hungry Indian but they always had to be careful about this as sometimes the Indians would take advantage of good nature.

In 1834, Mr. Houlton set out the first orchard in DeKalb County obtaining his trees from some place in Michigan. Mr. Houlton was a fine type of a hardy pioneer and was also a consistant Christian. One Sunday a flock of wild turkeys came into his orchard at the rear of his house and although

acting contrary to the wishes of Mrs. Houlton, his early Presbyterian training would not let him shoot one on Sunday. In later years he became a member of the Church of Christ. In addition to the forty acres already mentioned, Mr. Houlton entered land to the amount of 320 acres. Most of this land is owned by Dode Houlton, a grandson of the first settler, and has never been out of the Houlton family. Mr. Houlton, the grandfather, passed away on June 2nd, 1875, after a long and useful life in good circumstances and universally respected.

(Continued next month)

TOWN OF ORANGEVILLE LAID OUT ON ST. JOE RIVER

DEKALB'S FIRST TOWN

The second adventurous pioneer to enter DeKalb County and make a permanent home was Thomas L. Yates. He and his wife came from near Dayton, Ohio and they came up the river from Fort Wayne and built their home on the river bank in what is now Spencerville. The date of his claim filed at the land office in Fort Wayne was September 13th, 1833, just ten days after John Houlton filed his claim. Mr. Yates is said to have been a very peculiar character but, for all of his eccentricities, he was a good neighbor.

The third man to locate permanently in the county was David Butler, who married a sister of Mr. Yates. Mr. Butler and his wife also came from near Dayton, Ohio and he filed his claim at the land office in Fort Wayne October 12th, 1833 and established his home near that of Mr. and Mrs. Yates. Mr. Merritt Butler, a grand son of the third settler, now owns and lives on the same farm and this land has never been out of the Butler family.

By the end of 1833 there were six families living within one half mile of what is now Spencerville and the locality was known as the River Settlement. Before the country was surveyed, land claims were identified by leaving marks on trees, piles of stone or mention of natural appearances such as waterfalls, rivers, lakes, outstanding trees or by creating hugh brush piles, log heaps, etc. Land was plentiful those days and no border disputes were ever recorded at this time. After the organization of the county in 1837, the descriptions became more accurate.

The river settlements had some experience with the Indians but outside of coming to ask for food they caused little trouble, maintaining pretty good order among themselves unless maddened by whisky. One day, Mrs. Yates noticed a peculiar looking Indian camping with the other Indians near the Yates home. His clothing seemed to be half European and half Indian. Some months later it was learned he was Joe Richardville, son of the celebrated Indian Chief. His father was of French descent, his mother a Miami Indian and a sister of Chief Little Turtle. His father had sent him abroad and although college educated, he came back and finally adopted the ways of his mother's people.

William Miller, one of the early settlers on Bear creek near the St. Joe River, built the first grist mill in DeKalb County. A mill was one of the things obviously needed in a new settlement to grind their grain. This mill was a primitive affair. The stones, each about two feet in dia-

meter, were turned by a flutter sheel on a upright post. Its capacity at high water was a bushel of grain in three hours. Among the numerous tales told of this mill, the following will do to repeat. James Widney, in the fall of 1837 took a bushel to be ground and after it had been grinding away for some time, he went below to see how much meal was in the little meal box and to his dismay, found a big yellow dog eating the meal as fast as it came from the spout. Among the energetic young men who can be classed among the river settlers was Collins Robertson. He came to Indiana late in 1833 but did not enter any land until the spring of 1834 when he entered land on both sides of the river about a mile South of where Newville is now. Miss Mary Nicholls, a grand daughter of Mr. Robertson, now owns a large portion of this land which has never been out of the family. In 1836, Mr. Robertson began to realize the advantages and benefits that could be derived from a town in that community as a trading post for the early settlers. Accordingly, in the fall of 1836, Mr. Robertson laid out the first town in DeKalb County South and West of Newville about one mile on the West side of the River. He named it Orangeville. Just why he gave it that name, we do not know. The streets, called North, Birman, Spring, Mill, Walnut, and South, ran in a North-east and South-West direction. The cross streets were named Jackson, State, Robertson and Mackinaw. After laying out the town, Mr. Robertson offered a free lot to anyone who would build a house thereon. It is not known how many people took advantage of Mr. Robertson's offer, but we do know that in the winter of 1836-37 John Platter, William Rogers and a Mr. Savage contributed $200 each to build and establish the first store ever in DeKalb County. It seems that Mr. Platter was in charge of the store. The building was made of logs cut by John P. Widney who was one of the earliest settlers and who afterwards filled several important offices including that of County Clerk. The building was 16 x 18 feet. A rude assortment of articles was kept for supplying the needs of the settlers. Among the items were salt, molasses, tea, coffee, lump sugar, a small selection of foot ware, calico and drugs such as quinine, calomel, and fever pills. It is said that feathers, beeswax and flax seed could be exchanged for goods purchased in the store. We do not know how long Mr. Platter operated this store, but in 1863, we do find W. N. Shull in charge of a store selling groceries and dry goods. Mr. David Vinton had a tannery at this time also. In 1838, Jared Ball built and operated the first big grist mill in DeKalb County at Orangeville. Some few years after a flax mill was established and stood a little to the South of the grist mill. Just who built and operated it we have not been able to ascertain. In about 1860, the grist mill burned down and was rebuilt by Messers Hauk and Hamilton. This was a large mill, the stones being five feet across. From this time on the mill was in charge of various men including Jim Hamilton, a son of the gentleman named above, George Wilson, Dallas Fritz, Joe Haifley,

Al Symington, George Nicholls, Hiram Bartholomew, Allison Smith, John Groff, Simon Chubb and a man named Sands who was fatally hurt in an accident in the mill. About 1896, this mill burned down and was rebuilt by Eleck Donaldson. This mill was a little more modern, having rollers instead of stones. In 1902, we find Culbertson and Barney in charge of the mill doing a good business and running night and day. Henry Ice was the miller and George Henderson of Auburn then a yound man, was kept busy delivering flous at the following places - Edgerton, Hicksville, Maysville, Harlan, Auburn, Antwerp, Paulding and Butler. A Mr. Kincaid purchased the mill in 1904 and operated it until it burned in 1912. The mill was never rebuilt. These mills were all operated by water power.

In the 1840's a frame school house was erected in the little village. In about 1875 it was replaced by a brick structure. Some of the teachers who taught there were Nino Andrews, Mille Sechler, Ann Akins, Minerva Ackley, Nettie Wise, Lizzie Scholes, Bert Patterson, Eda Platter, Carl Husselman, Clyde Hart, Charles Krise, Andrew Chapman, Conney Birley, Rose Fales, Audrey Woodcox, Sam Tustoson and Irvin Hadsil.

For some reason, Orangeville never developed into much of a town. It seems that Newville and Spencerville absorbed most of the business in the early years. The town is now entirely extinct. One hundred seventeen years have brought great changes in the Orangeville neighborhood. The pioneers have gone to their long rest, the dense forest has fallen before the saw and the axe of the farmer. The wild animals have retreated before the advance of the settlers, roads have been built and automobiles speed through the old settlement. The lurking redmen, the deadly rattle snake, and the forest home of the plumed birds and insect life, all have vanished.

Continued next month.

COMMUNITY LIFE BOOMED IN SEDAN

1870 BIG YEAR

Richland Township was organized as a full Congressional township in September 1837. On the formation of Keyser township in 1878 twelve sections were taken from the sourthern part of Richland reducing its area to its present dimensions of twenty-four sections. The first settler in Richland township was Joseph Miller who in August of 1836 cut his way from his father's clearing in Jackson township and established his home in section thirty-five. This farm is now a part of Keyser township and has changed ownership numerous times and is now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dilgard.

The next settlers to come into what is now Richland township was Joshua Feagler and Jacob Wyrick who were brothers in law, Mr. Wyrick having married a sister of Joshua Feagler. They came West from Green County Ohio in the spring of 1836, expecting to enter land in Wabash County. They came down the Wabash and Erie canal to Fort Wayne where they stopped overnight and while there met Wesley Park, the founder of Auburn, and he induced them to come to what later was to become Dekalb county. Here each entered a quarter section of land about three miles north west of Auburn and then returned temporarily to their homes in Ohio. In the following autumn they moved their families here, arriving on the last day of September. Mr. Wyrich built his cabin first and here both families lived the first winter. Upon the arrival of spring Joshua Feagler erected his own cabin about a quarter of a mile west of the Wyrick home. Mr. Feagler spent the rest of his lifetime on this farm and his name is perpetuated in the name Feagler's Corners applied to that road intersection.

Both the Feagler and Wyrick entries are now the property of George Boren and he lives on the latter farm.

The first winter a baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Wyrick, the first white child born in Richland township. The Wyricks and Feaglers had plenty of Indians as their neighbors as there was an Indian trail in front of their homes and there was a camp they frequently used just a little west of the Feagler home which later became the David Lawrence farm. One day three Indians stopped at the Wyrick home with some venison and pointing to the outdoor oven made signs that they wanted to trade the venison for bread which Mrs Wyrick had done on several occassions. This time Mrs. Wyrick invited them to see the new baby. The Indians were astonished because they had never seen a white baby before and Mrs. Wyrick soon realized her mistake. The Indians were quick to take advantage of good nature and they came in large numbers to see the white baby and the Feaglers were compelled to drive them

away for fear that they would attempt to steal the infant. Mrs. Wyrick, however, always remained on friendly terms with the Indians and they in turn kept her well supplied with wild fruits of various kinds during the summer months.

Prominent among those who assisted in the development and improvement of Richland Township were Solomon Showers and Lyman Green, brother-in-laws. Mr. Showers had previously married a sister of Mr. Green. They came to Indiana in 1837, being natives of New York state and established homes in the north east part of the township. Mr. Green erected a home on the corner south of Sedan now known as the Brumback farm and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Guy Brand. For many years this was known as Greens Corners because of the intersection of roads. Mr. Green wished to establish a town there although we find no record of his platting any lots or laying out any streets but he did get a post office established and got himself appointed postmaster, and the place was known as Iby. Those days a mail route ran from Auburn to Orland and Iby was on the route. Mail was brought by stage coach when the roads would permit, otherwise by horse back. Mr. Green also established a grocery and an Ashery in which he made a product called potash or black salts which contained tannic acid and was used by tanners for tanning of hides. He took this product to Fort Wayne and exchanged it for such products as the pioneers used at that time. Mr. Green's customers were few and far between because in 1840 only sixteen families resided in Richland township and three in Fairfield township. Sometime in the 1840's Christian Buss built a saw mill at Iby and it stood where the Brumback barns stands now. Mr. Buss was a cooper by trade and he manufactured barrels made from oak timbers. The first school house in the township was established at Iby in 1840 and a church was erected soon after and Iby began to take on the appearance of a small town. Mr. Green had fond hopes that in time it would develop into a good sized town.

Among some of the early settlers in Richland township we will mention: Herman Bangs, James McCrum, Dimick Harding, Peter Treesh, James Blake, Henry Willis, Daniel Webber, James McCague. The latter was the writers grandfather.

In about 1850 the news reached DeKalb county that a survey was being made west of Toledo for a railroad. The Air Line was to be established and would run through DeKalb county. The road was later known as the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern and still later the New York Central. Much excitement prevailed. The line pushed westward slowly and finally reached DeKalb county. This project required a lot of manpower, hand labor with picks, shovels, wheelbarrows, scrapers and horse carts. When the railroad was finally completed through Dekalb county in 1857, we hear no more about the little town of Iby and Mr. Green moved his goods a mile north

along the north side of the railroad and started another store. Mr. H. S. Hine laid out a new town and called it Lawrence. Mr. Hine erected a steam saw mill and donated building lots to actual settlers to whom he supplied lumber for building. Harrison Jones had the honor of building the first house and also kept tavern. The postoffice run by Lyman Green at Iby was removed to Lawrence and Mr. Green was again appointed postmaster. About that time someone discovered that there was another town named Lawrence in Marion County, north east of Indianapolis so the postal aurhorities gave the new town and post office the name Sedan and the place began to show rapid growth. A grain elevator was built along the north side of the railroad on the west side of the main street and was a poplar market for many years.

Sedan Story Continued Next Issue.

THERE IS MORE TO THE SEDAN STORY

THE STORY SO FAR----

Organized in 1837 as a full Congressional township, Richland Township attracted early pioneers, particularly from neighboring Ohio. The first white child, born in Richland Township, a girl, was the daughter of the Jacob Wyricks. Lyman Green, from New York state settled in the north eastern corner of the township, became postmaster of community called Iby on the Auburn-Orland stage route. He tried to make a town of it. Sixteen Richland township families lived in trading area in 1840. 1857 saw the railway constructed across the county and Iby lost out when the new town of Lawrence laid out by H. S. Hine and built along the railway one mile north, attracted Mr. Green's store. A conflict in post offices accounted for the name change to Sedan. Mr. Green was postmaster. Lots were offered home builders. A grain eleavator was built along the north side of the railroad and the little community grew. 1870 witnessed the heighth of Sedan prosperity. We continue with the detailed story of Sedan.

William McIntyre was the popular railway agent from 1862 to 1874 when he was elected county auditor. Every effort was made to make Sedan an important trading post. We will mention a few of the business men between 1860 and 1880. Smith and Hunter built and operated a grist mill. Allman and Jones built and operated a hotel for many years. Haines Brothers had a drygoods store. George Gonsor had a grocery store where Mrs. Palmer now lives and George Parks had a grocery at the north end of town. There were two blacksmith shops, one owned by a Mr. Schontz and the other by Nick McEntyre. A Mr. Stewart operated a jewelry store. Two merchants named Orange and Kineman had a general store and sold shoes, dry goods and groceries. Two wagon shops were run by William Druse and Lew Westfall. William Shaffer and Co. made caskets from native walnut timber and William Blutcher had a basket factory. A Mr. Dungan was a cooper and made oak whiskey barrels. Grate Brothers manufactured washing machines. There was also a brewery, a candy factory, a brick yard and a chair factory. Through Stephen Lower, the harness maker at Stroh we learn that a little candy factory operated by John D. Miller and John Huperty at Flint was moved to the new and enterprising town of Sedan. A few years later the candy company became known as the Hort Miller and Law Candy Company and subsequently moved to Toledo where it operated under that name. This candy company moved again, this time to Fort Wayne and the name changed to the Wayne Candy Company, still operating in that city. In the 1870's Edward Wright moved from Fairfield Center and brought his tannery, soap and mitten factory to Sedan where he made his products out of hides. The medical profession was represented by the following: Doctors Farrington, Little, Mason, Sebring; and

a little later on Dr. A. B. Matthews came and operated a drug store in addition to the practice of medicine.

In 1860, the Lutherans built a new church with twenty eight charter members, John and Ruben Dilgard doing the carpenter work. This church burned down about twenty-five years ago and was not rebuilt. In 1857, a frame school house was erected and stood a little to the east of where Mrs. Palmer now lives. It is said that for several years there were nearly ninety pupils in this school. The boys sat on one side of the room and the girls on the other. We might mention that the Hoosier Schoolmaster of that day did not have a lucrative job compared to present day standards. They usually received from $3.50 to $5.00 per week and boarded around with the patrons. Some of the early teachers who taught at the Sedan school were: Nich Ackley, Joe Shull, Libby Rice, Orin Bair, Will Urey, Jonas Dilgard, Martha McCague and a Mr. Crum. A little later on Archie McEntyre, Nelson Shook and Brooks Hine were teachers.

Among some of the prominent citizens of Sedan was Mrs. Jane L. Hine, the Bird Woman, who was known personally to many ornithologists over the United States. She was in great demand as a writer and lecturer. She wrote many articles for farm magazines and spoke before farm institutes and other organizations. Early in the administration of President Woodrow Wilson she was invited by Mrs. Wilson to attend a costumed bird party at the summer home of the Wilsons at Cornish, New Hampshire but because of her advanced age and poor health she was not able to attend. Mrs. Hine was a most remarkable woman whose life was one of great purpose and in many ways was directly associated with the progress and upbuilding of the Sedan community. Mrs. Hine passed away in 1915 but is still spoken of in words of kindness and honor.

Another of the enterprising and public spirited citizens of the Sedan community was the late William H. Crane. Mr. Crane operated a grocery store at Sedan for more than a half century. He was appointed postmaster when a young man and held the appointment until 1907 when the post office went out of existance and Sedan was put on a rural route. Mr. Crane put his grocery on wheels and ran his huckster wagon five days a week during the summer months for many years while Mrs. Crane operated the store. The Cranes were known far and wide and were popular with the farmers of that community. Few people have had the good fortune to win such high regard and confidence that the Cranes gained among the people for miles around surrounding the Sedan community. Pleasing address, genial manners and good habits won a place in the best society in DeKalb county.

At one time it seemed that Sedan was destined to become a place of considerable importance. In 1870, it had a popu-

lation of 240. In 1880 the census bureau gave it a population of 176. The town passed through the usual experiences of sickness, deaths, hard times and several fires, losing by the latter, the grain elevator, the grist mill, some stores and factories after which business life began to decline and because of this business men began to cast their lots and fortunes in other localities. Notwithstanding the fact that the town had a good start, it was compelled to yield to other neighboring towns. Where once was a thriving little village, filled with happy and industrious people, it lives only in memory.

THE STORYS AND INDIANS REACH AGREEMENT

Fairfield Township lies in the northwest corner of DeKalb County. Its surface is broken, and probably contains more hills than any other township in the county. This irregularity or variation of bluffs and streams and lakes give it an attractive and picturesque appearance, and in addition, it contains many acres of good rich soil which fell into the hands of honest, thrifty and practical pioneers who laid the foundations for the township's present agricultural wealth.

Fairfield Township was the last of DeKalb County's townships to be organized, probably due to the fact that most all of the land was bought by speculators in an early day and this contributed much to retard actual settlement. Ebenezer Jessep, a native of Connecticut, was a land speculator and owned 9,702 acres of DeKalb County land and most of this land was in what is now Fairfield Township. A Pennsylvania bank held a large amount of land as well as a bank in Rochester, New York. One man named Detrick owned 1100 acres and other parties held various parcels of land in Fairfield Township which were sold through the agency of Wesley Park, the founder of Auburn. Gradually the land came into the possession of immigrants who realized a rich tribute from the soil.

The Story family, natives of Ohio, a father and five sons, were the pioneer settlers of Fairfield Township and they settled along the northern border. The five boys were named Augustus, Frederick, Willard, George and Samuel. Their family name is perpetuated by the name Story Lake. It seems the Storys were not inclined to cultivate the soil very much but spent much of their time in hunting, trapping and fishing. In this they had little trouble in securing the means for sustaining life because there was an abundance of game in the woods and the streams and lakes were filled with fish while the proceeds of the pelts of deer and other wild animals trapped enabled them to secure such supplies as could not be produced at home. The Story's were also in the habit of cutting down bee trees to secure the honey. In this project they met stiff opposition from the Indians who claimed they found the bee trees first. It was finally agreed between the Storys and Indians that when an indian found a bee tree, an arrow would be shot into it to mark it. And when the Storys found a bee tree they were to cut a notch in it. This arrangement seemed to be satisfactory to both parties and no serious trouble along that line was reported after that. After the immigrants became quite numerous, the Storys left this part of the country and the last heard of them, they were in Minnesota.

Willard Childs was the next early settler in Fairfield Township. He started on foot from his home in New York and walked through to Fort Wayne, thence to Kendallville where there were but two cabins, and taking a guide, came into DeKalb County on March 4th, 1837, the day Martin VanBuren was inaugurated President of the United States. Mr. Childs selected 120 acres in section 27 and paid for it and then found work in Fort Wayne to earn enough money to take him back home. At this time the Storys were the only white people who occupied the territory we now call Fairfield Township. Mr. Childs returned in October 1844, to pay his taxes and decided to make this his home. By this time settlers had began to move in and Mr. Childs eventually became a prominent citizen. Mr. and Mrs. William Gonser now own and occupy this farm. In 1884, there were not more than twelve families living in this unorganized township.

(Continued next month)

DEKALB FAIR HAS COLORFUL HISTORY

"Fairs and expositions are the time pieces which mark the progress of nations." This statement was made by President William McKinley in a speech delivered on the grounds of the Buffalo Exposition but a few short hours before an assassin's bullet ended his life. In fact fairs are an ancient institution, even the early Egyptians had fairs. It is said that the first fair in the United States was held in North Carolina prior to the Revolutionary War. In early days fairs were a common meeting place for all the people, a sort of social event. Where did Grandfather meet Grandmother? At the County Fair of course!

In the middle west the period of 1850 to 1870 was known in agricultural history as the Golden Age of Agricultural Fairs because of the rapidity at which fairs sprang up. The first fair to be held in our own DeKalb County was in the early 1850's on the Tom Ford farm east of Cedar Creek. Leonard Hoodelmier built the fence inclosing it. There were some exhibits although there was no premium money available for the first fair. A foot race was one of the main attractions at the first fair. In 1855 for some unknown reason the fair was not held on the fair ground but on the Court House grounds instead. A horse race was a sensation that year. In 1859 the DeKalb County Agricultural Society was formed. Wesley Park leased to the directors of the Association seven acres of ground lying north of Park's Addition to the town plat along the road running from Auburn to Waterloo. This plat of ground was about three or four blocks north of where the Auburn YMCA is now. The lease was for a term of eight years. The Association was to build a board fence seven feet high on the north and east side and the remainder within one year. Auburn was a quiet little village of about 500 inhabitants at this time. Succeeding presidents of the Association were S. W. Sprott, W. W. Griswold and Dr. J. N. Chamberlain. It seems that due to the Civil War and other reasons intervening it was decided to abandon the county fairs and none were held immediately after 1861. In 1870 a county fair was organized at Spencerville and was held in the log yard. It seems that the fair was not much of a success and we have no record of any fairs being held there after that.

The third effort to organize and maintain a county fair was at Waterloo in 1871. This movement was started because a new law at that time provided that every county in the state having such an organization would receive $500 from the State in support of such an enterprise. Some of the men most interested in this project were Dr. J. N. Chamberlain, John Leas, A. S. Leas, R. J. Lent, S. J. Locke, C. A. O. McClellan, B. B. Long and R. W. McBride. The above men

organized the Northeastern Indiana Agricultural Association on the stock plan. The capital was fixed at $10,000 and there was 100 shares. A tract of land comprising 13¼ acres adjoining Waterloo on the north was purchased for holding fairs. A good half mile track was built and the show of pacing, running and trotting horses was a great success and was for that time rather a new feature for county fairs. The Waterloo Fair continued for many years and was a success financially. The Waterloo Press in its issue of October 8th, 1890 in describing the fair said "There were 465 plates of fruit and over 50 horses in the speed ring and all the other departments filled to over flowing." The Waterloo Fair was thoroughly identified with all classes of people in northeastern Indiana.

In the year 1889 a group of business men from Auburn and farmers mostly from the south part of the county realized the benefits and advantages to be derived from a fairground at Auburn at which competitive exhibits could be held for the improvement of livestock, machinery and handiwork. As a result there was recorded on the 17th of October 1889 the "DeKalb County Fair organized for agricultural purposes to improve livestock, and to promote and encourage mechanical and all other useful arts also to exhibit the same embracing DeKalb and all adjoining counties". The capital stock of the above association was in the sum of $20,000 divided into 800 shares of $25 each. The directors of the association were as follows: James Rowley, Willis Brown, John Wilson, Charles Rugman, Samuel Knott, John S. Boots, John Carper, Calvin Husselman, Willard Pepple, Frank Kircher, Sylvester Kutzner, Daniel Thomas, Charles Glazier, Wilson Dancer, Sylvester Rogers, Christopher Shaffer, John L. Davis, Robert Rudd, Calvin Grube, and George Dunn. The first officers of the association were President, Charles P. Glazier, Vice President James McClellan, Secretary William H. Wills, Treasurer John L. Davis. This association purchased 70 acres east of Eckhart Avenue, erected buildings and built one of the finest half mile tracks in the state.

Editor's Note --- Although this tract of land has been under intensive cultivation for over a half century, recent air surveys made by the government and now on file at the DeKalb Courthouse, clearly indicate the oval elipse of the old race track.

This fair at first gave promise of success. Milo Calkins of Corunna with his 16 piece band furnished music for the first fair. In 1890 this society changed its name to "The Auburn District Fair". This organization seemed to be doomed for a short life. It seemed to never be quite able to get on its feet financially and after two or three years was abandoned and soon became a memory of the past.

The Waterloo Fair continued on for a few years but due to the existance of two county fairs and a depression of business that prevailed in the country at that time, it too was forced to close after a long and persistent effort to survive.

After the closing of the Waterloo Fair a street fair was organized at Butler. Dr. Carpenter from that town was chosen president. A race track was built at the south edge of town but owing to a lack of interest this fair was of short duration and after three or four years it too became history.

After the termination of the Butler Street Fair, DeKalb County was without a fall celebration of any kind. In 1896 Auburn merchants business men and manufacaurers, supported by the Auburn Commercial Club, began to realize the importance of closer relationship with the rural population for the betterment of the community. As a result of this motive the "DeKalb County Free Fall Fair" was organized. W.H. Schaab was elected the first president and he was followed by Hugh Culbertson and Fred Nebelung. Some of the other leaders in the organization were Harvey Judson, Miles Baxter, C.M. Brown, George Bishop, U.S. Rant, J.R. McDowell, E.A. Little, Mike Boland, H.H. Strohl, Pres Wilcox, Herman Brown and Dr. W.N. Fitch. These fairs were held each year and were similar to other county fairs except they were held around the Courthouse Square and on the main streets of Auburn. Farmers and manufacturers exhibited their best products and it was claimed by many that farm values rose from 10 to 15% as a result of the fair. In 1911 the fair was held on the streets of Garrett because of the building of the new Courthouse. In the year 1908 we find Auburn merchants giving generous prizes for the best and largest displays of products raised on any one farm excluding live stock. First prize was a new buggy donated by Eckhart Buggy Co., valued at $100; second prize Empire Cream Separator donated by Trovinger and Co., valued at $65; third prize a genuine Galloway Fur Coat donated by Schaab and Brother Co., and valued at $22.50; fourth prize 40 rod of field fence donated by Culbertson Hardware and valued at $12; fifth prize one pair of Red Cross Shoes donated by H.C. McClung and valued at $4.

These fairs continued to grow and thrive until 1922 when for some reason no fair was held in Auburn. Jackson Township, however, held a fair in the John Kelly Woods that year and it was said to have been a good display of livestock and other farm products. No more fairs were held for an interval of ten years when finally a group of business men and farmers conferred several times on the advisability of re-establishing the custom with the result that a fair was held in 1932. These fairs have continued with

varying success, depending upon the variance of opinion. No Fair was held in 1941 due to the Polio epidemic. Sometime in the 1920's the 4-H Clubs began to make their appearance in DeKalb County so when the Fair was reorganized in 1932 the 4-H was organized to such an extend that they could help carry on the work. At the present time the 4-H clubs exhibit most of the livestock and poultry shown in DeKalb County. There are many projects carried on in the 4-H Club work, some of them as follows: Baking, Food Preparation, Sewing, Canning, Gardening, Electrical, Home Improvement, Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle, Orchard, Pigs and many other miscellaneous projects. People of DeKalb County should realize the importance of a good fair which is a show case of the finest of our crops and livestock. Through the fine cooperation of the Cream of our Youth a wide variety of displays, mostly competitive, present the best our community offers. Here is education and entertainment for every age. Don't miss your fair! Find time to attend!

THERE'S MORE TO THE FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP STORY

On March 7, 1844, the board of County Commissioners received the following petition: "We the undersigned inhabitants of the unorganized township of DeKalb County in consequence of the distance we have to go to elections and the inconvenience of having to go into another township to do township business, do most humbly pray your honorable body that you would organize said township at your March session and order an election for a Justice of the Peace and other officers for said township and your petitioners will ever pray". The above petition was dated February 27, 1844 and signed by Rufus Lownsberry, George W. Story, A. Ball, Willard Story, Miles Allen, C. Allen, George Powell, Benjamin Hunt and Nathan W. Powell who were all voters in the township. This petition received a favorable reception and the commissioners ordered that this territory be organized into a separate township to be known by the name of Fairfield. Among some of the other early settlers were David McNabb, Hiram Thomas, Philip Gushwa, John Shook, Henry and Leonard Hartman, Tom Crossley, Ed Wright and Wesley Short. In 1845, Anthony Zonker came to DeKalb County and in a short time became a resident of Fairfield Township. He became quite prosperous and at one time owned more than 500 acres of land in various parts of the township. In 1872, he built a fine brick residence about two miles north of Corunna at a cost of $7000. This residence was the finest in DeKalb County at the time. This farm is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Guy Orwig of Ashley and is occupied by their son, Victor Orwig and wife.

In the early 1850's as a matter of necessity the little hamlet of Fairfield Center was started. Messers. Morrell and Hoover were the pioneer merchants, keeping a general store. Ed Wright, another early store keeper, also had a soap factory and tannery and also an ashery and paid 3¢ per bushel for hard wood ashes. It was a welcome enterprise as it was one of the few ways of raising money those days. William Martz was the first shoemaker in the village and his place of business stood where the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Tappan is now. Jessie Davis, another pioneer merchant had a grocery and dry goods store. Wesley Short owned most of the land around Fairfield Center and he had a general store and a grist mill and a saw mill. He was one of the wealthy and influential citizens of that day. Jacob Stair and Amos Palmer each had blacksmith shops. Walter and Jennie Reynolds ran a cabinet shop and made furniture and caskets out of walnut timber. Frank Sprankle was a worker in leather and made boots and shoes and harness. William and Charles Webster had a dry goods and grocery store just south of the Huet home. Abe Gonser had a general store. A Mr. Knauer had a grocery and dry goods store and it burned down in 1885 and he moved to Corunna and started another store there.

Chris Luginbuhl was a boot and shoe maker and also manufactured spring scales of a half moon design. He moved to Waterloo in the 1870s and continued to make scales. George Wearner had a grocery and dry goods store just north of Mrs. Firstone's home and ran a huckster wagon in the summer. In the summer of 1886, Mr. Wearner paid 5¢ per dozen for eggs, 6¢ a pound for butter, 3¢ a pound for young chickens. He sold calico for 3¢ per yard, soft white sugar for 3½¢ per pound, raisins six pounds for 25¢. Lion and Arbuckle coffee sold for 8¢ per pound, molasses for 20¢ per gallon. Granulated sugar had just come into the market and was considered a luxury and sold for 10¢ per pound.

The medical profession was represented by the following men: Doctors Laymond, Bricker, Rudolph and Mercer; the two latter finally located in Corunna. In 1876, Dr. Mercer was elected state senator from his district and proved himself an able legislator. Mr. A. B. Mathews later moved up from Sedan and operated a drug store and also practiced medicine. Dr. Mathews is said to be the last doctor to practice in Fairfield Center.

Some of the postmasters to serve the little community when there was a postoffice at the center were, Walter Reynolds, Cyrus Martin, a Civil War Veteran, George Lipsett, A. W. Gardner and William Krahn. Fairfield Center, like many other little hamlets, at one time gave promise of some importance but its population has dwindled, the post office has long since been discontinued, mail facilities being supplied by a rural route.

SHERIFF THREATENS TO JAIL PRESIDING JUDGE

STRANGE TWIST TO EARLY DEKALB JUSTICE

Union may well be regarded as the most favored township in the county because of its central location and the possession of excellent railroad facilities and the location within its limits of Auburn, the county seat.

Union Township was organized September 5, 1837, and at that time included all of Grant Township, also parts of others which, from time to time were detached from Union and independently organized, until the township was finally reduced to its present area. Union is next to the oldest township in the county, being about two months younger than Franklin Township.

Among the earliest settlers in Union Township on farms were Kneeland Abbott on the south, David Alterburg and Levi Walsworth on the east, and the Husselmans and McEntoffers on the north. In the fall of 1836, Mr. Wesley Park, with a man named Howe, came from Licking County, Ohio, to what is now DeKalb County, with the intention of locating a site for the county seat. Mr. Park appeared to be the right man for the founder of a city. After hunting a day for the best site, he decided on the piece of land where Auburn is now located. He accordingly entered the land at the Fort Wayne land office and came back and laid out the town. He immediately put up a "shack" 10 x 12 feet, and he and Mr. Howe cut a road through to Fort Wayne to get provisions. Mr. Park set up a tavern. He did his own cooking and was crowded with travelers and land hunters, who came to have Mr. Park show them land to enter. One night he kept fifteen men, which really filled up his hotel. Mr. Park soon discovered that his tavern was too small, so he erected a building 18 x 20 feet, one and one-half stories high with a roof of rafters and clapboards, and he continued to entertain travelers and land hunters, regardless of the season, as the settlers continued their immigration in the snows of winter as well as the heat of summer.

The organization of DeKalb County was not perfected until the winter of 1837 and 1838. The county was named in honor of Baron DeKalb, a German nobleman who espoused the cause of American independence. He joined the American army and was commissioned a general. He fell at the battle of Camden in South Carolina in 1780. The county was scarcely organized until a strenuous competition began for the location of the county seat. Messers Rogers and Hamilton on one side, and Park and Howe on the other, were the contending forces. The former bought up land near the exact center of the county, laid out a town plat and named the site Center-

ville. The site laid out by Wesley Park and Howe on the west bank of Cedar Creek seemed to carry the most favor when the Governor of the state appointed a Mr. Littlefield of Lagrange County, Mr. Gilmore of Steuben County, and Robert Work of Allen County as commissioners to select the site for the new county seat. Auburn was promptly chosen. Centerville was never built up and it makes excellent farming land, now owned by Oak Husselman.

Mr. Wesley Park, the founder of the city of Auburn, wrote the following narrative, and we quote it in full. "In the winter of 1837, following the act of the legislature to organize DeKalb, Littlefield of Lagrange, Gilmore of Steuben and Work of Allen County were appointed commissioners to locate the county seat. I was appointed sheriff of the new county, with the authority to select the place for elections in the few precincts of the county and to receive and forward the returns. After the organization of the county my house served as Court House, jail, hotel, church, cooking room, sleeping apartment, etc. As sheriff, appointed and afterwards elected, I had no jail except the upper chamber of my cabin. I used to put the prisoners up there and then take away the ladder, and tell them to stay there and they always did so. The lower chamber was the Court House. During the sitting of court it had to be suspended until dinner was cooked. This gave the judge a chance for a nap, which was very desirable, as he was generally fatigued and sometimes rather 'woozy'. Charles Ewing was the presiding judge. He was a brother of the celebrated fur traders, W. G. and G. W. Ewing. Judge Yates, who has been spoken of as an odd genius of a backwoodsman, got 'tight' one day and sentenced one Joe Bashford to receive a whipping and swore that, as he was the court and had pronounced sentence, he would personally inflict the penalty. As the judge was making toward the prisoner with his avowed intention, I seized him and giving him a whirl, told him plainly that if the court persisted in inflicting the penalty threatened, I, the sheriff would put the court up the ladder. Upon this threat the court acknowledged the authority of the Sheriff and adjourned peacefully."

At this time it might be well to explain the working of the above judges. Then, the Circuit Courts of Indiana were composed of three members, a presiding judge who was learned in law, the two associates who were not, and whose function was presumably to temper the law with common sense. As stated above, Mr. Ewing was the presiding judge, probably a circuit rider, and very likely a resident of Fort Wayne. Mr. Thomas L. Yates and Ariel Waldon were the associate judges and were both farmers residing in the southeast part of the county, along the St. Joe River. Mr. Yates will be remembered as the second settler to locate in the county,

and was a very peculiar character. He is said to have worn a coarse hunting shirt and a fox skin cap when he took his seat on the bench. But for all his eccentricities, he was said to have been a good neighbor.

CLAIMS POPULATION JUSTIFIES MOVE

In coming to this unorganized county, Wesley Park's purpose from the very first was the founding of a county seat. His selection was finally adopted in preference to the rival site of Centerville, although Centerville was located in the geographical center of the county. Mr. Parks laid out three parallel streets in the new town of Auburn, Main, Jackson and Cedar and these were intersected by numerous cross streets. Many of these cross streets were not used for many years and were useful only for the pasture for live stock kept by the town people. Mr. Parks gave a lot to each settler who would build thereon and by this he hastened the growth of the village. He and a man named Ogden built a saw mill in 1837 and it stood where the Messenger Corporation is now located. Some of the early settlers in Auburn were L. Ingman and John F. Coburn, who was the first County Clerk. Riley Jacobs and Tom Freeman were also early Settlers. The first store in Auburn was opened by a man named Comstock, whose stock was valued at $179.00 and whose license to sell cost 85¢. This store stood near Sixth and Cedar. Tom Freeman was the second man to open a store in Auburn. It was a frame building and it stood on the Southwest corner of Fourth and Cedar streets and one of the sources of profit was the sale of liquor to the Indians. After a short time Mr. Freeman sold his store to Nelson Payne and then erected a large frame building on the lot where the Y.M.C.A. stands. This building served as a residence for the owner as well as a store and a tavern which was known as the "Auburn House" and was Auburn's first hotel and had a history dating back to 1839. Unlike the buildings of today it's frame was composed of heavy and strong timbers and had little to fear from the wind storms. It was once a busy place with travelers seeking its hospitality. Mr. Freeman erected a large barn back of the hotel and furnished good accommodations for both "man and beast". This venture of Mr. Freeman's was successful and he was later known as the richest resident of the village. At this pioneer period it is said that Mr. Freeman and other Auburn Merchants brought their supplies from Fort Wayne on horse back. In the course of time Mr. Freeman disposed of his Auburn property and he and his family moved west. The old "Auburn House" changed ownership from time to time and was finally bought by John R. Moody and after his death was occupied by his widow. In 1912 Charles and Frank Eckhart purchased the property from the Moody heirs to make room for the now present Y.M.C.A. building which was given to Auburn by the Eckharts. Thus, the old Auburn House was retired from public view and passed into the realm of tradition.

Sam Ralston, another pioneer merchant came to Auburn in 1839 and operated a general store for more than half a century, and, at the time of his retirement, was the oldest merchant

in the county. In 1841 Auburn had a population of 72 and during that summer almost all of the inhabitants were prostrated by sickness. In 1840 Auburn had a population of 300 people and for many years gained very slowly, and being without a railroad communication became dependant upon the rival and thriving town of Waterloo on the north and was threatened with the loss of the county seat. At the close of the Civil War, Auburn had a population of 600 people. In 1870 the census Bureau gave Auburn a population of 677 and Waterloo a population of 1259. About this time Waterloo made another attempt to secure the county seat and for a time it looked like they would be successful. In 1874 Waterloo made their last attempt to secure the county seat. At this time of crisis Auburn joined hands with the citizens of Butler to complete the Eel River Railroad and quashed the movement.

Some of the early business men of Auburn were: Chris Asherman, grocery; Austin Brothers, boots and shoes, located where the National 5 and 10 is now; Joseph Albright, jeweler; Fred Beringer, taylor; I.O. Batchel, grist mill; Beugnot and Ober, stove factory; I.N. Cool, wagon shop; James Clifton, broom factory; Casebeer and Matheny, livery stable; Veley and Husselman, saw mill; W.H. Kiblinger, hardware; and John L. Davis, hardware; John Otto, grocery and shoe shop; Schaab and Beugnot, dry goods and groceries; J.W. Schaffer, wagon and buggies; George Wagner, blacksmith; George Ensley, brick yard; Mr. Ensley built and owned the brick building where Gerig Furniture Store is now located. He had a farm implement store there. He also built a brick building north of the Court House and some of them are still standing. He also donated to Auburn the land for Ensley Avenue which bears his name. He was one of the wealthiest citizens of his day in this locality.

In 1839 John Husselman, a native of Wayne County, Ohio, located in Union Township about two miles north of Auburn on what is now road 27. In 1844 he erected a large barn, 40 by 100 feet. History says "two days were occupied in raising the heavy frame of the Husselman barn and all the able bodied settlers for miles around were engaged in the work". This barn used as a land mark for many years in directing travelers along the way from Fort Wayne to Coldwater, Michigan. This barn is still standing and is in good state of preservation and is the property of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Fribley. The original walnut floor is still in use, some of the planks measure as much as 19 inches in width. It is still one of the big barns of the county. The builder of this barn was Christian Buss, Sr., a native of Switzerland, who came to DeKalb County in 1843. He was a skillful carpenter, as is evident of his handiwork.

WATERPOWER SAW MILL BRINGS BUSINESS TO WATERLOO

JAMES BOWMAN ENTERPRISING BUILDER

The story of Waterloo actually began in 1838. When Wesley Park was Sheriff of the county and also road supervisor for all of Union Township he hired two men to build a little board shanty on the site of the little town first called Union or Uniontown. This community is now north Waterloo. It was intended as a shelter for the men employed while they constructed a bridge over Cedar Creek at that point. In this cabin, in November 1838, D. Altenburg and L. Walsworth and their families and the two bridge builders spent a night. They were on their way from Steubenville to their new land entries east of Auburn. Uniontown was named evidently from the postoffice Union which was established there. The first postmistress at Union was a Mrs. Camilla Hall, who, it is said kept the mail in a wooden box on her kitchen table. The first general store was operated by Henry Moneysmith. A little later on, George Trout bought a half interest in the store and in a short time took over the business. Union, being on an old indian trail and the main road from Fort Wayne to Coldwater, Michigan, and sufficiently remote from other settlements, a town plat was justified and laid out by Frederick Krumm. The firm of M and A Hale was the next to engage in merchandising. James Bowman erected a waterpower saw mill in Cedar Creek just north of the present Shamrock Inn. Richard Burnistin was the village blacksmith and Dr. Jones was the first doctor. George Wareham, grandfather of Worth Wareham, was the gunsmith and Dan Smith kept a cabinet shop. David Shoemaker later kept a general store.

The completion of the new Air Line Rail Road in 1856 was the signal for the laying of the foundations for Waterloo City as it was then called. Miles Waterman, a prominent citizen of the county had purchased a tract of land south of Uniontown on both sides of the railroad right of way and on this land the town of Waterloo was laid out by Mr. Waterman and John Hornberger and the acknowledgement was taken before George Wolf, Justice of the Peace on March 14, 1856. We do not know why the new town was called Waterloo. It may have been named for Mr. Waterman, who laid out the town or it may have been indicative of the little town's many defeats suffered about this time. There being another town in Fayette County, north east of Connersville by the name of Waterloo and making the delivery of mail uncertain, the "City" was added so that it became Waterloo City. The post office at the other Waterloo was afterwards discontinued and in time the original name of Waterloo was restored.

Among some of the first businessmen who located in Waterloo were F. P. Day and Brother, Hardware; Basset and Maxton,

Jewelers; Brand and Duncam, Grocers; Willis and Co., books and notions; Jake Beck was the proprietor of the City Bakery; Phillip Morell, Boots and Shoes; Sinclair Brothers, Hardware. Hainess Brothers moved over from Sedan and operated a general store, Dr. J. U. Winslow had a drug store where Dunn's Dairy Bar is now. M. and A. Hale moved over from Uniontown and started a store where the Hamilton Drug Store is now located. Steifel and Kahn moved over from Auburn and opened a clothing store. J. A. Dennison operated a restaurant and confectionary; J. W. Campbell owned a drug store; Lowenstein and Rothschild had a dry goods store and grocery where the Kroger store is now located. Years later Bob Patterson had a shoe store at the same location. There was a R. J. Fish Grocery, a Sol Fisher Clothing Store and John Shull opened the first tavern in Waterloo which later became known as the Central House. Anderson Brothers manufactured wagons where Harvy Barr now lives on Railroad Street. William Wallace had a harness shop, H. H. Nutt operated a planing mill and Ely Williamson and Co. made fanning mills. There were others whom we are unable to list.

The town of Waterloo soon became the most prominent business and market place in the county. Waterloo was the country metropolis and many professional men established themselves here. At one time, the town seemed in a fair way to become the county seat. As stated above, Dr. Jones was the first doctor and he was followed by a Dr. Hornberger. Other pioneer doctors were A. S. Farrington, Z. W. Sheppard, J. V. Winslow, W. M. Bevier, A. B. Darby, Solomon Stough and a Dr. Myers who entered the army as a surgeon during the Civil War and a Dr. J. N. Chamberlain and whose daughter, Mrs. Russell Hull, still lives in the old Chamberlain homestead on Maple Street and she furnished the writer with valuable information for this history.

The methods of the physicians of that day seem rather crude to us today but taken as a class, the pioneer doctors were honest and tried to the best of their abilities to serve their fellows. In those days the doctor practiced under extremely trying conditions. Roads were practically unknown and on horseback he followed the narrow paths through the forest making his calls.

WATERLOO ORGANIZES VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRST FIREMEN IN DEKALB COUNTY

The years between 1865 and 1888 mark the period when Waterloo was indisputably the metropolis of the county. Professional men, especially were attracted to Waterloo. This was particularly true of the legal profession. J.B. Beers is believed to be the first to locate there, having moved from Auburn. Some of the other pioneer lawyers were L.J. Blair, J.E. Kinsley, T.R. Dickinson, Joseph H. Morelan, William D. Leas, C.M. Phillips, James S. Somers, James I. Best, who later became a member of the State Supreme Court. C.A.O. McClellan served as circuit judge and later was elected to Congress, Judge Frank Roby, was elected circuit judge and later became a judge of the State Supreme Court; D.Y. Husselman, who was elected County Clerk in 1882, and Don Garwood who was once prosecutor, later moved to Auburn and, when Auburn was incorporated in 1900, became Auburn's first mayor.

The first bank in the county was organized at Waterloo in 1873 by W.C. Langan, O.T. Clark, J.J. Best and C.A.O. McClellan, and was located where Dr. Showalter's office is now and known as the DeKalb Bank. The next Waterloo bank was organized by John Leas, Joseph Rogers, Jake Kahn and Art Corbett in 1875 and stood near where the Waterloo Hardware store is now located. This bank had a long and sucessful career and was the predecessor of the present bank in Waterloo. Which was made a state bank in 1922.

Waterloo had the honor of having the first fire engine and the first volunteer fire department in the county. This was said to have been about 1870. "Doc", an old colored man was the first barber and always wore a plug hat. Sol Fish was the first tailor; George Shoner, a native of Germany, was the first tanner and Gus Leas had the first livery stable. In 1859 T.Y. Dickinson moved over from Auburn and started publication of the Waterloo Press. This newspaper is still being published and is the oldest paper in the county. In 1868 another newspaper known as the AirLine was edited by J.F. Radcliff and he sold the AirLine to Tom Mays who removed the equipment to Auburn and originated the Auburn Courier. In 1890 Joseph Lovel moved to Waterloo from Corunna and started another paper known as the DeKalb Co. Democrat. This paper struggled along for about two years when it was purchased by O.S. Davidson who made another venture with a paper called the Waterloo Advocate. This paper was run through the campaign of 1892 as an organ for the Patrons of Industry, a labor organization. After the election the paper failed to get much support and was discontinued. In 1896, just about the time Williams

Jennings Bryan was coming into prominence with his "free silver" ideas, Karl Gerner, a native of South Dakota, came to Waterloo seeking a place to start a "Silver" paper. He sought subscriptions for the sum of a silver dollar and his paper was called the "Silver Dawn" and later became known as the "Waterloo Dawn" and proved to be a good paper. The Dawn prospered for about 13 years when Mr. Gerner sold his paper to a man in Ft. Wayne, who later was found to be an agent for the Indiana Brewers Association. It was then that Enoch Moffett came to Waterloo to take charge of the paper. During the local option campaign of 1909, the venture of the Indiana Brewers Association, as far as the Waterloo Dawn was concerned, was not a successful one and after a brief existance the paper was suspended in 1910.

The study of the bible in Waterloo and Uniontown must necessarily start with the coming of the first settlers. It is said that church services were held in this community at a very early date. Sometimes houses were used and sometimes a rough pulpit was erected in a grove of trees and more or less regular service held under the trees. The first preachers in and around Waterloo were not paid salaries. They cultivated the soil for a living and, when there was time to spare, would visit around the different neighborhoods, getting a few people togehter in some cabin or grove of trees and exhorting them to repentance. In time a nucleus was formed around which a church was afterwards established. The United Brethren Church is thought to be the oldest church organization in Waterloo. They built their first church in 1860 although they had an organization before that. The Congregational Church attempted an organization in an early day but, not being sufficiently strong, merged with the Presbyterians and perfected an organization in 1863. This church is now extinct. The Catholics erected a church in the east end of town in 1863 but this organization is no longer in existance. The Methodists built their first church in Waterloo in 1867 although they were organized before that date. The Diciples of Christ built a church on Maple Street in 1870. This church has been abandoned. The English Reform denomination built a church on the corner of Center and Union streets in 1872 but this church has long since been inactive. The Evangelical Association erected a church on the corner of Maple and Center Streets in 1877 although this church really had its beginning about two miles south of Waterloo in 1844. Its location was about half way between where the residences of Jesse Pepple and Everett Eastridge now stands. This denomination merged with the United Brethren in 1946. The German Reform people erected a church in Uniontown in 1876 but they no longer have an organization in Waterloo. In recent years the Church of the Nazerene and the Church of Christ have active organizations in Waterloo. The project of establishing an educational institution in Waterloo was started at an early date. According to very

scanty records the first little school house was erected in Uniontown and built of logs. It's exact location is not known. Two of the teachers who taught in this building were Emaline Gray and Jane Holmes. The next school building of which we have any record was a frame building in Uniontown which stood a little south of the Linn Imhoff home. We do not know how long this structure was used. Just before the town was incorporated in 1863 the township trustee caused the erection of another school building in the southeast part of town, about where the State garage is now located. In this building such men as Spencer Wills, Peter Colgrove and James A. Barnes were the instructors. In 1860 Professor J.H. Moore came to Waterloo from Auburn and erected a building where the Methodist Church now stands and conducted a select school called Moores Seminary. J.B. York was associated with him. In 1862 Prof. Moore enlisted in the 100th Indiana Volunteer Regiment and was killed at Jonesboro, Georgia. Mr. York continued the work for a while but finally gave up the school. In the early 1870's the large brick school was erected in the west part of town, a building remembered by most all Waterloo citizens. This was used until the magnificant new building in Southeast Waterloo was erected just a few years ago.

The history of Waterloo would not be complete with mentioning the County Fair which was organized in 1871. This outstanding Agricultural Association continued for many years and was known not only over Indiana but in adjoining states as well. Dr. J.N. Chamberlain served as it's president for many years. This Association became thoroughly identified with the farming and industrial people of north eastern Indiana. This success was mainly due to the enterprise of the people of Waterloo and for many years was a very good investment.

$24,180 BUYS LAND FOR GARRETT DEVELOPMENT

BALTIMORE COMPANY CLOSES DEAL

The construction of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad through DeKalb County in 1875 gave rise to the town of Garrett, which was directly on the line between Butler and Richland Townships. To avoid the inconvenience of having the town in two distinct townships, the County Commissioners caused the formation of another township called Keyser, reducing the area of both Butler and Richland. The history of Keyser Twp. is, therefore, identical with that of the two last mentioned, plus that of Garrett.

Garrett was laid out by Beverly L. Randolph, son of James M. Randolph, chief engineer for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and was named in honor of John W. Garrett, who was president of the railroad at that time. We believe that Garrett deserves special mention because of it's speedy growth under adverse conditions. The town was laid out when the shops were first located there in 1874 and 1875 and, of course was destined to be a division point. At that time the town site was owned by a company known as the Baltimore Land Improvement Co., and under whose management the place was built up. This company platted the land and offered lots for sale. Garrett was built up with such rapidity previously unknown in this part of the country. Within ten months from the original platting out of the town into lots, Garrett had two hotels, stores of all kinds, one newspaper shop, shops, saloons and several hundred inhabitants. A school had been established accomodating about fifty pupils. Mr. Walter Cowan was first selected as agent for the Baltimore Land and Improvement Co., and directed to acquire the land for the division point which later was to become Garrett. Mr. Cowan had to work with the utmost secrecy or the farmers who owned the land would raise the price so Mr. Cowan began very quietly to negotiate with the farmers that owned the land and it is said that he created the impression that he had two sons and two sons-in-law back east who desired to locate together as much as possible and that he had a little daughter twelve years of age and that he wanted a home for this little girl and himself. He finally closed the deals with the owners of the land and the deeds were executed October 22nd, and 24th, 1874 to Washington Cowan in trust as agent for the Baltimore Land and Improvement Co. as follows: John Kitchen, 40 acres; C. Hoick, 55 acres; Mrs. W. J. Anthrop, 44½ acres; J. L. Smith, 100 acres; Helmes Link, 80 acres; Samuel Link, 30 acres; Jacob Link, 10 acres; Crist Long, 40 acres; F. C. Bartels, 45 acres; Joseph Leason, 40 acres; G. E. Mathews, 40 acres, G. Rodebaugh, 80 acres making a total of 604½ acres and this was the ground on which Garrett was started. Each of these

twelve parcels of land had log houses for dwellings. Eight of these farms were in Butler Township and four in Richland Twp. The price paid was forty dollars per acre.

Mr. Cowan did not have much trouble negotiating with any of the land owners with the exception of Crist Long. Mr. Cowan finally purchased Crist Long's farm for $1600 and Mr. Long refused to accept anything except gold as payment and then, it is said, refused to move out because he claimed to have lost $500 and demanded $500 more. He finally vacated when crowded out by improvements. It is said that Mr. Cowan had a lot of trouble getting a clear title to Mr. Long's land because Mr. Long and his wife had seperated and when the wife was finally located in Nebraska, Mr. Cowan was compelled to give her quite a large sum of money to get her to sign the deed.

The first house in Garrett was built by O. C. Clark where the newstand is now located on Randolph Street. It was later used as a dry goods store by Lancaster Brothers. The postoffice was also in the second floor of this building and a Mr. A. W. Pratt was the first postmaster. H. N. Bicknell operated the first drug store. John L. Davis started the first hardware store by opening up a branch of his Auburn store, which is now the Auburn City Hardware. T. A. Smith opened the first bakery and it was known as the Star Bakery. L. M. Sherman was the first physician to locate in the new town. Isaiah Decker established the first livery and feed stable on the south west corner of Peter and Kayser Sts. Lewis Covell was the first attorney, Henry Levi had the first meat market, N. Kovaniske was the first taylor, H. G. Upmeyer had the first shoe store. The first sermon delivered in Garrett was by Rev. William Long.

In the spring of 1875 The Baltimore Land and Improvement Co. offered prizes for the first baby to be born in the new town as a means of stimulating the growth of the community, and on or about September 1875, the first claimant appeared. A public demonstration was immediately staged and special trains were run to accomodate visitors from nearby towns, speeches were made, band played, a dance was organized in which all participated until after midnight. This celebration was held in a new building called the Chicago House. Mr. Quigley, a B & O switchman was the happy father of the child and the youngster was named Garrett Quigley. The Land Company never offered any more prizes for such enterprises but the popularity of babies continued. Mr. Tom Hartford was one of the earliest settlers in Garrett, coming with his wife and fifteen children from Elkhart.

The Roundhouse first erected was extensive, measuring 265 feet in diameter and contained space for thirty two loco-

motives. Garrett soon became the home of many trainmen, conductors, engineers, firemen, brakemen and other employees including office personel.

Probably the most outstanding institution in Garrett is the Sacred Heart Hospital which for a little more than half a century has fullfilled a noble mission in the care and treatment of the sick. The record of the work done is truly one to be proud of. It is a modern institution and is under the able management of the Catholic Church. The first newspaper to make its appearance in Garrett was known as the Garrett News and was established in 1875. This paper, however, had but a brief existance. In 1877 Mr. Otho Powell tried another venture and established the Garrett Herald. This paper was published up until about the turn of the century. In about 1884 Henry F. and A. J. Little established the Garrett Clipper. This paper has changed ownership numerous times but is still being published. Other papers have been started since that time but all have been of short duration.

In 1926 the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad made known the fact that as an economy measure the shops were to be moved from Garrett to Willard, Ohio. Many people thought that Garrett would become a ghost town but not so. While it did retard the growth of the town, Garrett enterprise survived in a big way. In 1933 a new Roundhouse was built. Many residents of Garrett and vicinity are now employed by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

RIVER BOATS SUPPLY SPENCERVILLE SETTLEMENT FROM FORT WAYNE

NO ROADS AVAILABLE FOR FIRST SETTLERS

In the winter of 1837-1838, in the southeastern portion of DeKalb County, a township was organized known as DeKalb Township. It included at that time the territory embraced by Stafford, Newville, Concord and Spencer Townships. In later years Stafford and Newville were detached and Concord was substituted for DeKalb. On June 7, 1909, the board of County Commissioners, acting under a petition of taxpayers and voters, divided the township of Concord and named the lower half Spencer. The division was for school purposes entirely and although much controversy and hard feelings existed at the time, the old quarrels have been forgotten and the two townships have for many years enjoyed mutual prosperity. In natural features, Spencer and Concord Townships seem regarded as about the best in the county. Spencerville is the only town in Spencer Township and was first known as a river settlement being pleasantly located in a big bend in the St. Joe river.

It was the search for productive soil that brought the first settlers to DeKalb County and the land along the St. Joe River was most admirably adapted to agriculture by reason of what nature had furnished. This area along the river was densly wooded when the first settlers arrived, except for occasional opening, where it is said great quantities of wild plums, yellow, red and blue, were gathered every year and greatly prized by the Indians and early settlers alike.

There seems to be no dispute as to who the original settlers were in Spencer Township. Thomas L. Yates was beyond question the first white man of whom made permanent location in what is now Spencer Township and the date of his entry was September 13, 1833. He was soon followed by David Butler, John Dawson, Isaac Patterson, John Mathews and Hector Blake. All of the above families came before the end of 1833 and all located within one half mile of what is now the town of Spencerville.

The closest grist mill and market for the river settlement was at Fort Wayne, and of course no wagon roads existed at that time, so consequently the St. Joe River was utilized as a highway. Large canoes were hollowed out from tree trunks (preferably yellow poplar) and were used for navigation. These boats were usually three or four feet wide and as long as sixty to eighty feet and could carry quite a lot of provisions. Sometimes supplies at Fort Wayne were not plentiful and the round trip journey at times required a full week to make. Flour sold for

$14.00 per barrel and was sometimes musty. Corn in the ear sold for $1.50, salt at $2.25 per bushel, and other necessities were correspondingly high. There was one great advantage in that the woods were full of deer and other wild game, berries in season, and so nature provided in a way for them. The forests were also full of wolves and they would come at night to howl and the Indians would come in the daytime. It is said that a few narrow indian trails intersected with a main one that led toward Fort Wayne at this point, but all traces of these trails have long since disappeared and for the most part only vague reference is made to them in local histories.

It is not known exactly when Spencerville first got it's name. There seems to be no official records until about 1842, although we find it being spoken of as Spencerville as early as 1837. Joseph Sawtell was appointed the first postmaster in 1839.

Probably the most prominent man in pioneer days in the vacinity of Spencerville was Ruben Dawson. He was born near Lawrenceberg, Indiana, in 1811. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1838. In 1836 he came to DeKalb County and purchased the Thomas Yates farm where the town of Spencerville is now located. Mr. Dawson later laid out the town and called it Spencerville in honor of his brother-in-law, Colonel John Spencer, who was at that time collector of money for the U.S. Land Office at Fort Wayne. His first court trial was at Bluffton and he was appointed district judge in 1840 and soon identified himself with the interests of the community. He is known to have held court in DeKalb, Allen, Steuben, Noble, and possibly LaGrange Counties.

At about this time a large band of desperate men had organized as horse thieves, robbers and counterfeiters. Their operations extended over northern Indiana, Michigan and Ohio, and they became so bad and so bold that when opposed, would burn buildings, inflict physical torture and even do murder. The situation became so bad that in 1852 an act of the State Legislature led to an organization in Indiana known as the "Horse Thief Dective Association". The records of the DeKalb County Circuit Court for 1858 show the existance of the organized band of outlaws. Case after case of larceny, forgery and concealment of stolen goods occupied the attention of his Honor, Ruben J. Dawson. At Rome City the Regulators took the law into their own hands and hanged one Gregory McDougle, whose execution produced a profound impression throughout this region. Sile Doty had been sent to the penitentary but plenty of outlaws remained and they had plenty of money and employed skilled lawyers for their defense. Judge Dawson presided over many of these trials and matched his wits against the best

legal talent in Fort Wayne, South Bend and other cities employed in their defense. He went from one court to another on horseback in bad weather and exposure and mental strain led to his sickness and he passed away in 1859 at the age of 48 years. Although the Regulators struck a death blow to lawless practices, the outlaws were not wholly surpressed until after the Civil War and the Regulators of 1852 passed into history.

The thoughts and actions of these honorable pioneers were not always of serious turn of mind and sometimes interesting and comical instances are recalled and we believe the following one is worth repeating. We quote from Dr. Willis Carey in his history of Spencerville, page 75: "At this early date it was not unusual for men congregating together to engage in wrestling, boxing, etc. At one time in the Curray mill yard, Sam Wasson, having just brought in a load of logs and was cracking his whip around when Ruben Dawson made the following proposition: 'Sam, let me take your whip and give you three cuts, then you can give me three cuts'. Sam always willing to take a dare, accepted Dawson. After several swings of the whip, struck Sam twice and stopped, saying he would take the third cut later. This led to lots of criticism in that a man of his calibre, Judge of the District Court, would stoop so low as to play such a trick on an old time friend. Time went on and the Judge was often twitted as to when he was going to give Sam his last cut. Dawson died and Sam forgave and forget, showing a noble character under an apparent rough surface."

ELECTION INVOLVING CONCORD-SPENCER-FISH CREEK ILLEGAL

NEW ELECTION HELD

We do not know when the first white man entered what is now DeKalb County but it is a known fact that hunters and trappers visited the lands along the St. Joe river at a very early period, as early perhaps, as 1790 when they would come up from where Fort Wayne is now located and trade with the indians. They would camp along the river for a few days and then continue their course. These people cannot be classed as early settlers because they did not come with the purpose of making the country a permanent place of residence. It seemed that this territory along the St. Joe was destined to give us most of our pioneer history and our reminiscences.

It will be remembered that John Holton was the first settler in DeKalb County. He arrived in 1833 and made a permanent home in what is now Franklin Township and he lived an isolated life for nearly two years before he had any neighbors. But not so with the river settlement. The settlers continued their immigration until by the time the county was organized there were log cabins extending from Spencerville up beyond Vienna (Newville) and were fairly close together for that time. One of the great handicaps of the early river settlers was the scarcity of horses or oxen. Having as yet raised nothing on which to feed animals in the winter, they were compelled to make many shifts to get along. It is said that William Mathews of Concord Township raised a good crop, planted with a hand spike and tended with a hoe. His method of planting was to strike a sharp handpick into the rich soil, diagonally, draw it out, drop in a seed then press down the soil by stepping on it as he passed on to the next hill. Mr. Mathews also had the first grist mill or corn cracker in the county on Bear creek.

The first man who was married while a resident of the river settlement, so we were informed, was Jared Ball who married Miss Melinda Slater. The father of the bride lived in Williams County, Ohio, near the present town of Edgerton. The bridegroom paid the officiating minister in pumpkins. A few years later in this county a certain judge performed a marriage ceremony and the happy bridegroom paid the judge for his invaluable services by permitting him to pick as many cranberries as he wanted from his cranberry marsh. The first marriage that actually took place in the river settlement was that of Nelson Ulm and Elvira Lockwood in the summer of 1837.

The first store in the county was opened by John Platter at Orangeville in 1837. The first funeral in the settlement was that of a Mrs. Barker who died at her home a little

north of Vienna (Newville) and there being no minister in the settlement, John Widney was sent for. He prayed, sang a few hymns and talked a few minutes to the neighbors on the subject of death. The first marriage license taken out in DeKalb County were those issued to Francis Smith and Marie Gunsenhouser and to John Platter and Ann Emeline Walden. Both licenses were issued on the 5th day of September, 1837 and both wedding ceremonies performed by Washington Robinson of Concord Township, the first justice of Peace in DeKalb County.

The first election in the county was held in July 1837. Two voting places were opened in the county, one at the home of Washington Robinson to accomodate the citizens of the river settlement and the other on Fish Creek in John Holton's neighborhood. John Widney carried the election returns from the river settlements to the county seat, following the dim route of an indian trail and guided by a pocket compass he arrived in Auburn where the only building to be seen was the cabin of Wesley Parks. Here Mr. Widney met an elderly man named Boyer who had brought the returns from Fish Creek. The two men formed the first board of canvassers, the one of mature age the other a young man and neither familiar with their duties.

The total votes of the two precincts numbered thirty and were duly certified and sent to the Governor of the State, giving the results of the first election. Peter Fair, Samuel Widney and Isaac Beecher were elected county commissioners, John F. Coburn, Clerk-Recorder, and Wesley Park, Sheriff and Treasurer. Arial Walden and Thomas L. Yates were elected associate judge. When Mr. Yates was informed of his election he dryly remarked, "The voters are using up the Buckeye (Ohio) timber first and reserving that of superior quality". Yates was an eccentric character with many excellent and admirable qualities. Probably neither Walden or Yates laid much to legal knowledge. Some weeks after the election it was found out that the county had not been legally organized so another election was held the next year on August 6th, 1838. The results were about the same except Luther Keep was elected a county commissioner replacing Mr. Beecher. And in addition, David B. Herriman was elected state representative. The first presidential election in which the citizens of the new county participated was the one in 1840 when Harrison and VanBuren were the candidates. Glowing descriptions have been given of the "hard cider" campaign of that year and the enthusiastic rallies where the slogan "Tippecanoe and Tyler Too" was sung by marching crowds. Harrison was successful in the county, for of the 334 votes cast, he received a majority of ten. Thus the Whigs were the strongest in the DeKalb county.

Conintued Next Issue

DR. NUESBAUM MAKES CALLS IN NEW HORSELESS CARRIAGE

THE CONCORD-SPENCER HISTORY CONTINUED

The first election in the county was illegal and another was held the same year, August 6th, 1838. The first Justice of the Peace was Washington Robinson and his first report to the county officers was of interest.

Under date of April 9th, 1838, Washington Robinson made the first report to the county that was ever tendered by any Justice of the Peace. The report read as follows: "Lyman Benton and William Rhodes being found guilty of an affray and confessed themselves guilty, and as there were no lawyers to enlighten or mystify his honor, so after reviewing the testimony the Justice decided to fine them both one dollar and fifty cents each."

The first doctor to locate in the county was William Shelton who settled in Franklin Township. Very little is knwn of this man and it is thought that he remained only a short time and he left without much history and was followed by the second doctor to locate in the county who was Dr. William L. Pink. Dr. Pink was a single man and made his home with John Fee, a brother-in-law of John Holton. He was said to have had good manners, was intelligent but was positive and tyranical in his opinion. The story was told and comes down that he was addicted to intoxicants which, too often, rendered him incapable of serving his patients but it is said that during these periods of drinking he refused to give any attention to the sick. He frequently treated families with whom he lived until he had boarded out the professional claim. If the board suited him, the claim might be quite substantial. If the fare was not liked, he whittled the bill for services down so he could move on. Dr. Pink died at the home of Adam Boyer in Franklin Township in 1846. After the death of Dr. Pink another doctor in the person of Peter LaDue of French decent, settled in Franklin Township. He is said to have been an ill tempered fellow and his patients thought he lacked sympathy. He finally died from an injury received when his horse fell with him through a bridge. After this date several doctors settled in the community in quite quick order. In passing we mention a Dr. Jonas Emanuel, who settled in Spencerville in 1843, is said to have an extensive practice and was for many years the only physician in that section of the county. He was said to have been a man of energy and was attentive to business and was a success financially. All honors to the pioneer doctor who threw his saddle bags across his faithful horse and started out on his rounds which would take all day and part of the night. And if the roads were too bad, he would walk. The time came when he had a two wheeled sulky and later a buggy.

According to available information Dr. W. H. Neusbaum was the owner of the first automobile in DeKalb County, bought about 1900-1901. He used it in his calls on patients.

The first settlers of DeKalb County were without religious facilities of any kind. Benj. Alton, of the Church of Christ, preached the first sermon in the county in the fall of 1836. For over a year he was the only preacher. He settled in the woods, cleared a place for his home and worked hard during the week, chopping wood for himself and neighbors in order to earn enough to keep his family. However, on Sunday he seldom failed to put on his black coat and occupy a pulpit. It is said of him on reliable authority that sometimes in the summer he would preach in his rough work clothes, in his shirt sleeves, sometimes with a shoe on one foot and a boot on the other. This was not strange because boots and shoes were almost impossible to obtain. The Reverend Alton organized the Church of Christ at Coburn's Corners on February 17th, 1837. This was the first church of any denomination organized in DeKalb County. It was organized in the Alton home, a little log cabin 16 x 20 feet, and located on the banks of the St. Joe river with the following charter members: John Coburn, Minervy Coburn, Samuel Headly, James Hadsell, Nancy Babcock, Benjamin Alton, Jr., Lorenzo Alton, Benjamin Alton and Fanny Alton. One story prevails that for a seven week period, the Reverend Alton journeyed from place to place living in various homes, preaching wherever opportunity afforded. During the seven week period he received in money, thirty five cents. The explanation is that at that time there was no money in circulation. It was at the sacrifice of such men that the gospel was spread in these times. It is worthy of note that the little group that organized the church in Alton's cabin in 1837 is the same church that is known as the Coburn's Corner Church of Christ and is the oldest church organized in the county.

ISAAC SMITH WALKS 480 MILES TO FILE FOR LAND

ISAAC SMITH WALKS EIGHT ROUND TRIPS TO FORT WAYNE

Smithfield Township occupied the north-central part of De-Kalb Co., and the first settlers in Smithfield was Isaac B. Smith, after whom the township was named. He came from Ohio in 1837 and first made his home with a Mr. Murray at Pleasant Lake in Steuben County and from here he explored the woods of what is now Smithfield township to find a piece of vacant land that would suit him for a home. Several times he had selected pieces of land, walking the some thirty miles to the landoffice at Fort Wayne, only to find someone had entered the land previously. Finally on the seventh trip he secured a corrected plat of Smithfield township from the landoffice and took the indian trail again for the north and, being worn with fatigue, arrived at the cabin of Wesley Park in what is now Auburn and remained overnight. It was agreed that Mr. Park would accompany him the next morning and show him land which could be entered for claim and for which he was to pay Wesley Park one dollar for his services. This time, his eighth long walk to the Fort Wayne landoffice was a successful one and he entered 160 acres of land in the south-west corder of section 23, Smithfield Township. This farm is now property of Lester Hamman.

There were many indians in the vicinity of Smith's farm and the first summer he lived there about five hundred indians camped on his farm and adjacent land. Among these indians were Chief White Horse. White Horse was said to have been friendly to the whites. Smith erected a cabin 16 x 18 feet and about this time the families of Cyrus Smith and Joseph DeLong moved in and the three families lived together until the latecomers built their own home. To show the hazards of pioneer life, one morning on awakening, Mr. Smith found a rattle snake coiled up on top of his bed and from then on the three families covered the sides of their cabins with black ash bark peeled from nearby trees so the snakes could not easily gain entrance.

The second permanant settler in Smithfield Township was Ruben Daniels who emigrated from Orleans County in New York and came by the way of Michigan to this county. Mr. Daniels entered 200 acres of land and paid for it with silver which he had carried with him. Other early settlers were Ira Canburn, Ferris Blake, Sol Brandeberry, Harry Shoemaker, Tom Locke, John Baxter, and Isaac Barker.

The first township election was held at the home of Isaac Smith and there were just five people present, just enough to form a board. Ferris Blake was chosen township clerk, Ferris Blake, Isaiah McLeish and Isaac Smith were chosen

trustees and Ruben Daniels made Justice of the Peace. Mr. Daniels had a large territory under his jurisdiction but a very scant population. On one occation he was called on to join in wedlock, Jake McLeish and his bride a Miss Chaffee. He traveled on foot to a place near Story Lake in Fairfield Township to perform the ceremony and agreed to take his fee in wild hogs but the story has come down that he was never able to catch any of them.

Continued Next Month

THERE IS MORE TO THE SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP STORY

TOWN OF ASHLEY PLATTED IN 1892

In 1870 the Fort Wayne, Jackson and Saginaw Railroad, now the New York Central was built through the country running north and south and at the highest point in Smithfield Township, a station was established first called Mottinger or Gramling's Crossing. A little later it took the name of Summit and a thriving little town grew up there but in late years only a few houses remain to mark the place. At one time, Thad Thomas was postmaster and one of the enterprising merchants of Summit. In 1892 the town of Ashley was platted, the origin of the town being due to the building of the Wabash Railroad through Smithfield Township and the north part of the county. Ashley was named after Ossian W. Ashley, president of the Wabash from 1890 to 1892. Under his regime the section of the line from the north western corner of the state of Montpelier, Ohio, was constructed. This railroad company under the name of Indiana Improvement Company, bought extensive land on the site of Ashley and established a division point there. The town quickly sprang into life and naturally drew a large influx of population. The town which straddled the county line between DeKalb and Steuben Counties, was incorporated in 1892 and for fifteen or more years the tide of prosperity rolled on. But in 1907 the railroad moved its division point to Montpelier, Ohio, and the tide began to ebb and Ashley lost its honored place of recent years. However several small factories, have located in Ashley and the town has come back smiling.

The cause of religion in Smithfield was not neglected. Probably the United Brethren Church was the first to be organized in the township. They held regular services in the Smith School house. Later, this congregation known as No. Six, erected a church building and Reverend Samuel Chaplin was the pioneer minister. In 1852 Reverend Edward Barker came to DeKalb County and he was instrumental in founding Barker's Chapel, a Methodist organization which is still in existence and possessing a beautiful new church building on road 27 north of Waterloo. In the late 1870's a large number of German Catholics settled in Smithfield Township and they were soon provided with a priest in the person of Rev. August Young of Garrett and St. Michaels Catholic Church was soon organized. They erected their first church in 1881 on the property donated by John Schaudel. Their present beautiful edifice was built in 1921 and the spires of St. Michaels can be seen from a great distance as one approaches from any direction. The Church of Christ was first organized in Smithfield at Cedar Lake under the able leadership of the Reverends Bartlett and Hadsell in the late 1870's. This church is still in existence and very

much alive to its responsibilities.

Education was not overlooked by the Pioneers of Smithfield. Isaac Smith and Ruben Daniels put up a log schoolhouse on the corner of the Daniel farm. A Miss Murphy was the first teacher and Laura Phelps was the second. The better financial condition of the farmers in later years was apparent because of the erection of several grade school houses at nearly the same time.

ALMON CHAFFIE NAMED POSTMASTER OF TURKEY CREEK

A HISTORY OF SALEM TOWNSHIP

Because of the request of many readers of the Auburn Shopper's Guide, we attempt to write a brief history of Salem Township, which is located in the extreme southwest corner of our neighboring county of Steuben. We here want to mention that we are much indebted to Miss Josephine Parsell, a teacher in the Salem Township schools, for valuable information furnished for this history.

The first entry of land in Salem Township was made in August 1836 by Caleb Hopkins, who entered the south half of the south east quarter of Section 3. This land is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Boots. It seems that the Hopkins family soon sold out and migrated further west. Richard Knott was the second to enter land in Salem Township and he and his family have the honor of being the first permanent settlers in the township. Other early settlers were David Wisel, Sr., David Wisel, Jr., Otis Wisel, Joseph Locke, David Butler, Jesse Butler, Avery Emerson, C.C. Bodley and George Brown.

Salem Township has had within its limits, four towns: Turkey Creek, Salem, Hudson and Helmer. Turkey Creek is now extinct and hardly anything is left ot mark the place, but it has a very interesting history back of it. Turkey Creek is located on road 327 about one and one half miles north of Helmer and was named for the flowing stream along the banks of which an abundance of wild turkeys were to be found. At a very early period, two indian trails intersected here at Turkey Creek. One trail started near Lake Michigan coming east and south through White Pigeon and on east to Detroit, the other trail coming from the north and in a general direction followed a route that had become road 327 to where the indians said "three rivers meet", later to become known as Fort Wayne. Early travelers noted this intersection and thought this a favorable position for trade with the indians so in about the year 1790 Alexander LaFrombis, a Frenchman who had married the daughter of an indian chief living near Milwaukee, established a trading post at the place now known as Turkey Creek. Here LaFrombis purchased furs from his Potawatomi neighbors. He lived in this great wilderness and prospered and raised a family of boys and girls. He marketed his furs at Fort Wayne. He and his wife had great influence over the Potawatomi indians and in the course of time became very rich. It is said that this trading post was abandoned in the early 1800's.

In the year 1830 a new influx of people, eager to claim land and to establish homes and farms, came from Ohio and other

eastern states, but it was not until 1852 that a post office was established at Turkey Creek in the home of Almon Chaffie. Mr. Chaffie thus became the first postmaster.

Continued next month.

TURKEY CREEK RANGERS NAME HENRY WRIGHT PRESIDENT

There is more to the Turkey Creek History. We learn that the town was platted by Porter Johns in 1857 although the Post Office was established there five years before with Almon Chaffie as postmaster. About that time Matt Cary started the first store in him home on the north side of the forks in the road. This store, when first started, was said to contain a barrel of flour, a barrel of salt and a barrel of whiskey. In 1857, after the town had been platted, a new general store was built in the triangular plot of ground where the three roads intersected. The Post Office is believed to have been moved into the store at this time. We do not know who operated this store. Across the road just north of the store once stood a saw mill owned by a man named Douglas. Some years later, Henry Wright ran a saw mill in Turkey Creek. About twenty rods west of the store was Turkey Creek's first school house. Harvey Appleman was one of the first teachers. The school house was also used as a church and singing school. Up stream from the bridge was a cider mill, a tannery and a cobler's shop owned by a man named Swartz, who is said to have been skilled in harness making and shoe making. White brothers came to Turkey Creek in an early day from Pennsylvania and they also had a tannery. John Renner made boots and shoes and is said to have done a brisk job business. Turkey Creek had two blacksmith shops. Amos Kutz had one but we have not been able to find out who operated the other one.

Some of the other Postmasters serving the little community beside Mr. Chaffie were John Strayer, a Mr. Ellithrop and Dan Pray. The post office was taken away from Turkey Creek in 1894 and moved to Helmer. Dr. Love came to Turkey Creek in the 1860's and was the first doctor. He was followed by Dr. Rockfeller, Dr. George Ruth and Dr. Sharrow. A dance pavillion and picnic grounds once stood on the north side of the creek known as the "Bowery", located in a nice grove of maple trees. Here close by was a nursery owned by a Mr. Harner. This enterprise did a good business and was the only nursery ever established in Salem township. In 1852 a mail route was established between Kendallville and Angola, and Turkey Creek was on this route. When the roads were bad the driver would change horses at Turkey Creek. Sometime in the 1870's William Anstett started a livery stable at Turkey Creek. Some years later he sold out to Alva Hanna who continued to operate it until 1891. Theadore Chinesworth was the last man to run a saw mill in Turkey Creek. This was between 1907 and 1911. Some of the other early merchants of Turkey Creek were Dan and Ed Pray and Herick and Hoover. George Ellithorpe was Justice of the Peace. Albert Tinklephaw owned a horse powered threshing machine and he was a popular fellow among the surrounding farmers.

On the 5th of January in 1883 there was an organization formed at Turkey Creek known as the Turkey Creek Rangers, organized "for the general good of the community, for the protection of their properties and families and especially for the apprehension of horse thieves". We do not know who the first officers were but in 1886 we find the following men as officers: President, Henry Wright; Vice President, Henry Junt; Secretary, George Ellithorp; Treasurer, M. F. Wright. This society was limited to thirty five members and in 1886 we find the following men identified with the organization: A. S. Ellithrop, Nathan Crossley, E. Metz, H. Harbaugh, William Hayward, Jessie Shields, Walter Hayward, H. W. VanPelt, Z. E. Dryer, Wesley Conkle, Jacob Sidle, William Lieberenz, Frank Ladow, R. E. Butler, John Kunce, W. F. Gertz, George Klink, W. S. Ammerman, E. W. Gunsaullus, A. DeWitt, N.J. Rice, R. Shaffstahl, T. J. Clinesmith, W. E. Kimsey, J. B. Hayward, C. J. Helmer, A. J. Southerlin, J. W. Butler, Elmer Loughery, and D. B. Lewis.

We do not know how long this organization was in existance, but it is said it did good work in its day.

Turkey Creek remained a center of activity until the Wabash Railroad was built in 1892, when Helmer was established just about one and one half mile to the south, and this contributed to the downfall of Turkey Creek.

To the casual motorist speeding past Turkey Creek on Highway 327 there is nothing to suggest that here was once a thriving little village. Turkey Creek never attained much importance as a town but its convenient country stores and other small business places saved the people of the surrounding community many miles of tiresome travel in obtaining the necessary supplies.

FUTURE VICE PRESIDENT OF U.S.A. MARRIES SALEM CENTER GIRL

LOIS KIMSEY BECOMES BRIDE OF YOUNG LAWYER MARSHALL

As we continue our history of Salem Township, we now direct our attention to the town of Salem, sometimes called Salem Center. Salem is the oldest and smallest of any town in the township, the population being about 65 persons at the present time. Salem has long been called the 'burg' by the villagers and surrounding farmers, because when the Wisels settled this place in 1836, it was called first Wiselburg. It later took the name of Salem, although the term 'burg' was never entirely forgotten and has continued to be used by many down through the years.

In 1843 William Austin and Ed Wright built a large log building and opened the first grocery store on the site of the present brick building. This store changed ownership several times. Aldolphus Gale and W.W. Branden were once owners of this store. A Mr. James Richards finally purchased this property and built thereon a frame building, the first story used as a shop and the second floor by the Masonic Fraternity. This property changed ownership many times and finally burned in 1896. After the fire the Odd Fellows built the north half of the present brick building, the lower floor being used by various parties for mercantile business. Mr. William Kimsey finally acquired this building and he and the late Vice President of the United States, Thomas R. Marshall, were once partners in the mercantile business. Mr. Marshall was not active in the operation of the store as he practiced law and later became Governor of the state of Indiana. During the administration of President Woodrow Wilson, Mr. Marshall was Vice President of the United States. During the early days of the partnership in the Mercantile, Thomas Marshall fell in love with his partners daughter, Lois Kimsey and they were married in the house now occupied by the William VanPelt family which was the home of the Kimsey's at that time. The Marshalls, however never resided in Salem.

Through the years Salem became the home of many physicians who cared for the sick of the community. Mention is made of Dr. Bevier who came in 1848 as the first doctor. Dr. Bevier located in Waterloo, Dr. A.G. Parsell was the second doctor to come to Salem and then came J.C. Kimsey in 1855. Among the later physicians were Doctor McHenry, L.C. Crossman, M.T. Clay, Harley Cunningham, Whitemarsh, Firestone, Ephriam Raub, Sharrow and Burdette Goodale. In 1882 Dr. Raub moved to his farm two miles north of Auburn.

The first blacksmith was Jesse Miller, but later on a Mr. M. Barnes, Mr. Haskins and a Mr. Green operated blacksmith shops. One of the very early business enterprises in Salem

was an ashery built by Austin and Wright. This ashery stood on the northwest edge of Salem, back from the road a little distance and on the farm owned by Fred Shull. Hardwood timber was burned and the ashes 'leached' into lye which was boiled down into a product called black salts or tannic acid, which sold in the market at that time for approximately one dollar per hundred pounds. This product was used for various purposes including the making of soap and the tanning of hides. Among industries in Salem was a pottery owned by Elder Ball. Brown earthen crocks, pitchers etc. were made.

In 1841 the first log school was built in Salem. It stood in the northwest corner where the James Rowe family now lives. The first teacher was Eliza Swink. The early seats were made of split logs placed around the sides of the room, the desks were rough boards placed on pegs driven in the walls. Steel pens, lead pencils, and writing tablets were not in evidence but goose quill pens and slates did good service and many students became proficient in reading, writing, spelling and arithmetic. Order was preserved by the old fashioned and famous switch, the older pupils getting the lickings while the young ones were frightened into good behaviour.

In 1848 a mail route was established between Auburn and Orland and Salem became the post office on this route. David Wisel became the first postmaster and served until some time in 1853.

In 1885 we find the following firms in business in Salem: W.R. Kinsey's general store; Hammond Dole and Co. general merchandise; David Hoskins hardware and groceries; M.T. Clay and J.C. Kimsey both operated drug businesses.

To have been the second white child born in Salem Township was the distinction enjoyed by Daniel Wisel who was born March o, 1838. The family lived in a log cabin one half mile north of Salem village where Harold Lochamire house now stands. Uncle Dan, as he was called by all who know him, died in 1940 at the age of 101 years and 9 months. Potawatomi Indians still lived in Salem Township when Uncle Dan Wisel was a child and he has related several stories about them that are of interest and we quote the exact words of Uncle Dan; "When I was born there were no roads, no nothing but lots and lots of Indians. We lived a half mile north of Salem Center on the east side of the road and there was a large indian trail that went right through our door yard. It went over northwest where Mongo is and I don't know where it went from there. Many Indians came to our house and it seemed that our house was full of them half of the time. They would stop and ask mother for bread but we needed bread about as bad as the Indians did. One day there was an old squaw came to our house and she had her little papoose with her, just about my size. I was eyeing him and he was eyeing

me both of us just little fellows. I guess the squaw noticed us for she wanted mother to trade babies. But did I get to my mother and beg my mother not to trade me off!" Mr. Wisel also related the story of how his father Otis Wisel would drive his team of oxen to Fort Wayne to get salt, flour and other groceries. One time when he was gone on this three or four day trip, the Indians became noisy and loud when darkness came, and they continued to run up and down the trail, Mr. Wisel became so frightened that she took her boys, Daniel and Otis Jr., and making a hole in a large fodder shock in the back yard, spent the night concealed inside the shock.

Thus the early settlers came to Salem Township and started the rural community we enjoy today.

CANADA SOUTHERN RAILROAD BRINGS BUSINESS BOOM

NEW ENTERPRISE FOR HUDSON

The village of Helmar is located in the southwest corner of section 32 in Salem Township and is at the intersection of the Wabash Railroad and State Highway S327. Helmar was originally platted by Cyrus J. Helmar and Luch Helmer on May 4th, 1892 and is one of the youngest town in Steuben County. Helmer owes its existance to the Wabash Railroad which was constructed across the county in 1892. The very first passenger train to make the run into Chicago was in the summer of 1893. It was an excursion train that picked up a whole coachful of passengers at Helmer, bound for the Columbian Worlds Fair exposition in Chicago. The railroad soon became a busy and growing enterprise and was operated on a twenty four hour basis. Right soon after the railroad was built stockyards were established and many thousand head of livestock passed through them, including horses which were running in a semi-wild state in the West and were brought here by the car load and sold to be tamed for work horses and driving horses. After the coming of the age of motor trucks, the stockyard fell into disuse and have entirely disappeared from the scene.

After Helmer was established in 1892 the post office at Turkey Creek, located one and a half mile north, where Dan Dray was postmaster, and the post office at Custer, two miles to the South, where Isaaiah Hovarter was postmaster, were both abandoned and a new office opened at Helmer where Mr. Hovarter became the first postmaster. In the meantime he had moved his general store up from Custer. About this time Hiram Billman started the first hardware store.

Between the years of 1900 and 1915 Helmer was the scene of a large variety of activities. The grain elevator, the stockyards, the Wabash depot, with its heavy mail express and freight, a drug store owned by John Spearo, a Millinery store owned by Pearl and Billy Tritch, George Tritch's grocery and a creamery owned by Schlosser brothers. A livery stable was built by Jim Wren and a second livery stable by Jake Steffy, which fell into disuse about 1910.

Helmer was never without a doctor. Among the first were Doctors Dove, Mape and Mercer. Dr. Denman came in 1905 and is still carrying on a moderate practice for one of his years. He has been a doctor, friend and councellor for the people around Helmer for almost fifty years.

We will now give a brief history of the town of Hudson which was first known as North Benton. North Benton was platted

by Elizabeth Clark and others in 1869. Some years later the postal authorities gave it the name of Hudson. Messers Ferguson, Fullerton and Rapp made an addition to the original plat. Leander Brugh also made an addition in 1873 and it is this plat where all business interests are centered today. Hudson is rather an old town but never grown to the high hopes held for it by the early time citizens and like so many twin towns, Hudson and Ashley, only a mile apart, neither have thrived like a single town might have thrived. Hudson owes it's existance to the proposed route of a railroad known at the time as the Canadian Southern Railroad. This was a project of the early 1870 and the town of Hudson was planned for a large town of varied and extensive industry and commerce but the proposed railroad never materialized although over a period of several years much of the grading had been completed. In the spring of 1873, when work was in progress on the proposed railroad, Mr. Brugh engaged E.N. Woodford of Metz, then the surveyor of Steuben County, to survey 22 acres and plat them into village building lots. The lots were sold, houses and store buildings went up and Hudson looked forward to a rapid growth. Then the railroad project folded up. Fortunately for Hudson the extra fertile country side surrounding the village lessened the result of the railroad projects failure and the town did not suffer as severely as some of the other small towns in the area. Ira Allerton bought the first building site and erected the first general store. The first hotel was erected by J.S. Moore of Auburn in 1873. A Mr. Miller opened the first drug store. Henry Sanders had the first hardware store. Dr. T.G. Matheny was the pioneer physician at Hudson. Some years later he moved to Auburn where he practiced medicine for many years. The first wagon maker was Nelson Way. The first blacksmith was Jacob Slybaugh. The first school house was erected in 1876 where Frank Ritter taught the first term. David Ferrier was the first postmaster and was succeeded by H.K. Leas. In 1801 when the Wabash Railroad was constructed across the country, then Hudson had a good opportunity to become a town of importance but it seems that the land owners asked too much money for the land sought by the Wabash Railroad. The railroad management is said to have bought the right of way a mile distant giving rise to the town of Ashley which became a division point until 1907 when the railroad shops were moved to Montpelier, Ohio.

TWO MORE DEKALB COUNTY TOWNS DISAPPEAR

ARTIC AND CONCORD GOOD TOWNS IN HORSE AND BUGGY DAYS

Here and there, over the state of Indiana, one can find many instances where towns, which sprang into being, for various reasons, died, were deserted and forgotten except in the memories of the now too few "Old timers". In looking over the list of ghost towns in our own DeKalb County we find Sedan, Fairfield Center, Summit and Orangeville of which accounts have been published in the Auburn Shoppers Guide during the recent months.

Another of these vanishing towns in DeKalb Co. was located in Troy Township and known as Artic. We do not know just when Artic was founded but we find a post office established there in 1850, Amos Steams being the first postmaster. He served until his death in 1860. He also had a general store. The postoffice in these inland villages were usually located in some corner of the general store with the merchant holding the title of postmaster. His pay was based on the dollar value of stamp cancellation which rarely was more than a few cents per day but the people of the surrounding community would call for their mail or perhaps come to mail a letter and in this was some business brought to the store. After the death of Amos Steams, his son James became postmaster and served three years and then a second son John served for one year. Resigning he was succeeded by James McDonald who held the office until the postoffice was discontinued in 1884 with Joseph Bell as the postmaster.

Soon after the town was originated a saw mill was established and did a good business for many years. In the early 1880's Orville Foutz started a blacksmith shop; about the same time a Mr. Gilmore put in a feed mill and Joe Everts had a barber shop. When the Wabash Railroad built their line through the country in 1892, with the right of way right through the village of Artic, most people thought this would put the town on the map. They were right in a way, the town of Artic is still on the current Indiana Highway and many of the railroad maps. The Wabash Railroad immediately put up a station and many bushels of potatoes and onions and a large quantity of hay was shipped from this point. About this time a wagon shop was built but we have not learned who the owner was. A little later on a Mr. Roy Jennings put in a coal yard and Scott Camel started another store and it began to look as though Artic was in for a healthy growth. Mr. Canel later sold out to a Mr. Diehl, and Harvey Wilson succeeded Joe Bell as postmaster and he served until a rural route out of Butler was established in 1906. William Yates, a Civil War veteran, was the first rural mail carrier on this route. From this time on the busy little village of Artic began to slip until

today, only two convalescent homes remain on the town site.

Another of the vanishing towns in the county is the little community of Concord Township, known as Concord. We do not know for certain when the little Hamlet of Concord was started but we find in 1860 that Joe Link, father of the late Dan M. Link, was the proprieter of a general store there and also carried the title of postmaster. It is said that Mr. Link's store contained groceries, dry goods, clothing for men, boots and shoes, notions and shelf hardware. He also provided a market for the surrounding farms. Mr. Link finally sold out to a Mr. Hyde and he, in turn, sold to Cecil Rhodes from Newville, who operated the store for a while. Israel Wyatt was the next owner and he started the first Huckster wagon out of Concord. Henry Baker was the next owner and he continued the huckster wagon business. Israel Layman, a native of Concord vicinity and very young at the time, drove the huckster wagon for these owners and he related some of his very interesting experiences to the writer of this article. At that time only a small amount of the groceries received by the retailers was in packages as marketed today. Sugar (soft white) was shipped by wholesalers in wood barrels with an approximate capacity of 300 pounds. Rice came in 100 pound bags but there was beginning to be some roasted coffee shipped in one pound packages with 100 packages to a case. Arbuckle and Lion were the favorite brands. Spices of all kinds came in bulk to the stores to be weighed out according to the wishes of the customer, according to Mr. Layman. So there was always a big job on a Saturday in the store, weighing up and packaging groceries for the huckster wagon starting out on Monday morning. Brown paper was used to package sugar, usually in 25¢ packages. At that time sugar sold for 5¢ per pound, crackers 8¢ per pound, tea came in bulk and was put up in quarter pound packages, salt came by the barrel and retailed for about 1¢ per pound. It was not unusual for a farmer with a large family or one who kept extra farm hands to order a three hundred pound barrel of sugar. And of course there were people who would come out to inspect the wagon, look over almost everything on it and buy little or sometimes nothing. But is was all in a days work and sometimes a little patience and a prospective customer resulted in a good sale later on. The huckster of that day always carried a chicken crate, egg cases, and a tub or small barrel of butter, which produce was exchanged at market prices for its value in other merchandise. Prices paid for farm produce those days was low compared to the present time. Chickens were 5¢ per pound, Turkeys 6¢, eggs 6 to 8¢ and butter from 10 to 15¢ per pound depending upon demand from shippers. Those days, butter was butter, all of one market grade, at least so the country producers thought. There was no good way to classify the good from the inferior qualities. A man called 'Shorty'

Barnett, who drove a team for Beyer Brothers from Kendalville, would pick up the butter once a week, put it in large barrels and when the Kendalville firm got a carload, would ship it to eastern markets.

Henry Baker operated the store at Concord until 1915 when his son Walter Baker took it over and ran it until 1928, when he sold it to Del Dragoo, who ran the store four or five years, then his son Clifford took it over and he in turn sold it to Stanley Baker who closed out the business and the building stood idle for awhile. Finally a Mr. Neusbaum from Fort Wayne, opened the store and operated it for about one year.

Dennis Poorman was said to have had the first blacksmith shop in Concord, the upper floor of his building was used by the Ancient Order of Gleaners. Craig Sheffer also operated a blacksmith shop when the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad was built across the country in 1867 and it's course laid out through the village of Concord . Many people thought that Concord would make a city. Nicky and Gandy put up a saw mill and worked overtime. Dick Gilson and Henry Baker erected a wagon hub factory and they employed quite a lot of men. Richard Irvin started another store and it really looked like Concord would have a future, but the cards were stacked against it, either the town or the railroad had been born at the wrong time.

Improved highways and motor transportation have about eliminated the small rural trading center such as Concord. All of which sums up the fact that times do change. As a town Concord has joined its neighbors Sedan, Fairfield Center, Summit, Artic and Orangeville and has completely vanished from the face of the Earth.

ABBOTT
Kneeland 23
ACKLEY
Minerva 8
Nich 13
AKINS
Ann 8
ALBRIGHT
Joseph 27
ALLEN
C. 21
Miles 21
ALLERTON
Ira 55
ALLMAN
12
ALTERBURG
David 23, 28
ALTON
Benjamin 42
Benjamin Jr. 42
Fanny 42
Lorenzo 42
AMMERMAN
W.S. 50
ANDERSON
Brothers 29
ANDREWS
Nino 8
ANTHROP
Mrs. W.J. 33
APPLEMAN
Harvey 49
ASHERMAN
Chris 27
ASHLEY
Ossian W. 45
AUSTIN
52
Brothers 27
William 51

BABCOCK
Nancy 42
BAIR
Orin 13
BAKER
Henry 57,58
Stanley 58
Walter 58
BALL
A. 21
Elder 52
Jared 7,39
BANGS
Herman 10
BARKER
Mrs. 39
Rev. Edward 45
Isaac 43
BARNES
James A. 32
M. 51
BARNETT
Shorty 58
BARNEY
8
BARR
Harvy 29
BARTELS
F.C. 33
BARTHOLOMEW
Hiram 8
BARTLETT
Rev. 45
BASHFORD
Joe 24
BASSET
28
BATCHEL
I.O. 27
BAXTER
John 43
Miles 19
BECK
Jake 29
BEECHER
Isaac 40
BEERS
J.B. 30
BELL
Joseph 56
BENTON
Lyman 41
BERINGER
Fred 27
BEST
J.J. 30
James I. 30
BEUGNOT
27
BEVIER
Dr. W.M. 29,51
BEYER
Brothers 58
BICKNELL
H.N. 34
BILLMAN
Hiram 54
BIRLEY
Conney 8
BISHOP
George 19
BLAIR
L.J. 30
BLAKE
Ferris 43
Hector 36
James 10
BLUTCHER
William 12
BODLEY
C.C. 47
BOLAND
Mike 19
BOOTS
John S. 18
Robert 47
BOREN
George 9
BOWMAN
James 28
BOYER
Adam 41
BRAND
29
Guy 10
BRANDEBERRY
Sol 43
BRANDEN
W.W. 51
BRICKER
Dr. 22
BROWN
C.M. 19
George 47
Herman 19
Willis 18
BRUGH
Leander 55
BRUMBACK
farm 10
BRYAN
William Jennings 31
BURNISTIN
Richard 28
BUSS
Christian 10
Christian Sr. 27

BUTLER
David 6, 36, 47
J.W. 50
Jesse 47
Merritt 6
R.E. 50

CALKINS
Milo 18
CAMPBELL
J.W. 29
CANBURN
Ira 43
CANEL
Mr. 56
CAREY
Matt 49
Dr. Willis 38
CARPENTER
Dr. 19
CARPER
John 18
CASEBEER
27
CHAFFEE
Miss 44
Almon 48, 49
CHAMBERLAIN
Dr. J.N. 17,29,32
CHAPLIN
Rev. Samuel 45
CHAPMAN
Andrew 8
CHILDS
Willard 16
CHINESMITH
T.J. 50
CHINESWORTH
Theadore 49
CHUBB
Adam 8
CLARK
Elizabeth 55
O.C. 34
O.T. 30
CLAY
Dr. M.T. 51
M.T. 52
CLIFTON
James 27
COBURN
John 42
John F. 26, 40
COBURN
Minervy 42
COLGROVE
Peter 32
COMSTOCK
Mr. 26
CONKLE
Wesley 50
COOL
I.N. 27
CORBETT
Art 30
COVELL
Lewis 34
COWAN
Mr. 34
Walter 33
Washington 33
CRANE
William H. 13
CROSSLEY
Nathan 50
Tom 21
CROSSMAN
Dr. 51
CRUM
Mr. 13
CULBERTSON
8
hardware 19
Hugh 19
CUNNINGHAM
Dr. Harley 51

DANCER
Wilson 18
DANIELS
Ruben 43,44,46
DARBY
Dr. A.B. 29
DAVIDSON
O.S. 30
DAVIS
Jessie 21
John L. 18,27,34
DAWSON
John 36
Ruben 37,38
DAY
F.P. & Brother 28
DECKER
Isaiah 34
DeKALB
Baron 23
DeLONG
Joseph 43
DENMAN
Dr. 54
DENNISON
J.A. 29
DETRICK
Mr. 15
DeWITT
A. 50
DICKINSON
T.Y. 30
DIEHL
Mr. 56
DILGARD
John 13
Jonas 13
Robert 9
Ruben 13
DOLE
Hammond Co. 52
DONALDSON
Eleck 8
DOTY
Sile 37
DOUGLAS
Mr. 49
DOVE
Dr. 54
DRAGOO
Clifford 58
Del 58
DRAY
Dan 54
DRUSE
William 12
DRYER
Z.E. 50
DUMMER
Ed 1
DUNCAM
29
DUNGAN
Mr. 12
DUNN
Dairy Bar 29
George 18

EASTRIDGE
Everett 31

ECKHART
Buggy Co. 19
Frank 26
ELLITHROP
Mr. 49
A.S. 50
ELLITHORPE
George 49,50
EMANUEL
Dr. Jonas 41
EMERSON
Avery 47
ENSLEY
George 27
EVERTS
Joe 56
EWING
Charles 24,26
G.W. 24
W.G. 24

FAIR
Peter 40
FALES
Rose 8
FARRINGTON
Dr. 12,29
FEAGLER
Joshua 9
FEE
John 41
Sarah 3
FERGUSON
Mr. 55
FERRIER
David 55
FIRESTONE
Dr. 51
Mrs. 22
FISH
R.J. 29
Sol 30
FISHER
Sol 29
FITCH
Dr. W.N. 19
FORD
Tom 17
FOUTZ
Orville 56
FREEMAN
Tom 26
FRIBLEY
Earl 27
FRITZ
Dallas 7
FULLERTON
Mr. 55

GALE
Aldolphus 51
GANDY
58
GARDNER
A.W. 22
GARRETT
John W. 33
GARWOOD
Don 30
GERIG
furnature 27
GERNER
Karl 31
GERTZ
W.F. 50
GILSON
Dick 58
GLAZIER
Charles P. 18
GONSER
Abe 21
William 16
GONSOR
George 12
GOODALE
Dr. Burdette 51
GRAMLING
45
GRATE
Brothers 12
GRAY
Emaline 32
GREEN
Mr. 51
Lyman 10,11,12
GRISWOLD
W.W. 17
GROFF
John 8
GRUBE
Calvin 18
GUNSAULLUS
E.W. 50
GUNSENHOUSER
Marie 40
GUSHWA
Philip 21
HADSELL
Rev. 45
James 42
HADSIL
Irvin 8
HAIFLEY
Joe 7
HAINESS
Brothers 29
HALE
M. & A. 28,29
HALL
Camilla 28
HAMILTON
23
Drug Store 29
Jim 7
HANNA
Alva 49
HARBAUGH
H. 50
HARDING
Dimick 10
HARNER
Mr. 49
HARRIMAN
David B. 40
HART
Clyde 8
HARTFORD
Tom 34
HARTMAN
Henry 21
Leonard 21
HASKINS
Mr. 51
HAYWARD
J.B. 50
Walter 50
William 50
HEADLY
Samuel 42
HELMAR
Cyrus J. 54
HELMER
C.J. 50
Luch 54
HENDERSON
George 8
HERICK
49
HINE
Brook 13

HINE
H.S. 11
Mrs. Jane L. 13
HOICK
C. 33
HOLMES
Jane 32
HOODELMIER
Leonard 17
HOOVER
49
Mr. 21
HOPKINS
Caleb 47
HORNBERGER
Dr. 29
John 28
HORSE
Chief White 43
HOSKINS
David 52
HOULTON
Dode 5
John 3,39,40,41
Samuel 3
HOVARTER
Isaaiah 54
HOWE
Mr. 23,24
HUET
21
HULL
Mrs. Russell 29
HUNT
Benjamin 21
HUNTER
12
HUPERTY
John 12
HUSSELMAN
23,27
Calvin 18
Carl 8
D.Y. 30
John 27
Oak 24

ICE
Henry 8
INGMAN
L. 26
IRVIN
Richard 58

JACOBS
Riley 26
JENNINGS
Roy 56
JESSEP
Ebenezer 15
JOHNS
Porter 49
JONES
12
Dr. 28,29
Harrison 11
JUDSON
Harvey 19
JUNT
Henry 50

KAHN
29
Jake 30
KEEP
Luther 40
KELLY
John 19
KIBLINGER
W.H. 27
KICKINSON
T.R. 30
KIMSEY
Dr. J.C. 51,52
Lois 51
W.E. 50
William 51
KINCAID
Mr. 8
KINEMAN
12
KINSLEY
J.E. 30
KINSEY
W.R. 52
KIRCHER
Frank 18
KITCHEN
John 33
KLINK
George 50
KNAUER
Mr. 21
KNOTT
Richard 47
Samuel 18

KOVANISKE
M. 34
KRAHN
William 22
KRISE
Charles 8
KROGER
29
KRUMM
Frederick 28
KUNCE
John 50
KUTZ
Amos 49
KUTZNER
Sylvester 18

LADOW
Frank 50
LaDUE
Dr. Peter 41
LaFROMBIS
Alexander 47
LANCASTER
Brothers 34
LANGAN
W.C. 30
LAWRENCE
David 9
LAYMAN
Israel 57
LAYMOND
Dr. 22
LEAS
A.S. 17
Gus 30
H.K. 55
John 17,30
William D. 30
LEASON
Joseph 33
LENT
R.J. 17
LEVI
Henry 34
LEWIS
D.B. 50
LIEBERENZ
William 50
LINK
Dan M. 57
Helmes 33
Jacob 33

LINK
Joe 57
Samuel 33
LIPSETT
George 22
LITTLE
Dr. 12
A.J. 35
E.A. 19
Henry F. 35
LITTLEFIELD
Mr. 24
LOCHAMIRE
Harold 52
LOCKE
Joseph 47
S.J. 17
Tom 43
LOCKWOOD
Bernard 1
Elvira 39
LONG
B.B. 17
Crist 33,34
Rev. William 34
LOUGHERY
Elmer 50
LOVE
Dr. 49
LOVEL
Joseph 30
LOWENSTEIN
29
LOWER
Stephen 12
LOWNSBERRY
Rufus 21
LUGENBUHL
Chris 22

MAPE
Dr. 54
MARKLEY
Myron 3
MARSHALL
Thomas R. 51
MARTIN
Cyrus 22
MARTZ
William 21
MASON
Dr. 12
MATHENY
27
MATHENY
Dr. T.G. 55
MATHEWS
G.E. 33
John 36
William 39
MATTHEWS
Dr. A.B. 13,22
MAXTON
28
MAYS
Tom 30
MERCER
Dr. 22,54
MESSENGER
Corp. 26
METZ
E. 50
MILLER
Mr. 55
Hort 12
Jesse 51
John D. 12
Joseph 9
William 6
MISER
Samuel 1
MOFFETT
Enoch 31
MOODY
John R. 26
MONEYSMITH
Henry 28
MOORE
J.H. 32
J.S. 55
MORELAN
Joseph H. 30
MORELL
Phillip 29
MORRELL
Mr. 21
MOTTINGER
crossing 45
MURPHY
Miss 46
MURRAY
Mr. 43
MYERS
Dr. 29

McBRIDE
R.W. 17
McCAGUE
James 10
Martha 13
McCLELLAN
C.A.O. 17,30
James 18
McCLUNG
H.C. 19
McCRUM
James 10
McDONALD
James 56
McDOUGLE
Gregory 37
McDOWELL
J.R. 19
McENTOFFER
23
McENTYRE
Archie 13
McHENRY
Dr. 51
McINTYRE
Nick 12
William 12
McKINELY
William 17
McLEISH
Isaiah 43
Jake 44
McNABB
David 21

NEBELUNG
Fred 19
NEUSBAUM
Dr. W.H. 42
Mr. 58
NICHOLLS
George 8
Mary 7
NICKY
58
NUTT
H.H. 29

OBER
27
OGDEN
Mrs. 26
ORANGE
12

ORWIG
Guy 21
Victor 21
OTTO
John 27

PALMER
Mrs. 12,13
Amos 21
PARK
Wesley 9,15,17,23, 24,26,28,40,43
PARKS
George 12
PARSELL
Dr. A.G. 51
Josephine 47
PATTERSON
Bert 8
Bob 29
Isaac 36
PAYNE
Nelson 26
PEPPER
Col. A.C. 3
PEPPLE
Jesse 31
Willard 18
PHILLIPS
C.M. 30
PINK
Dr. William L. 41
PLATTER
Eda 8
John 7,39,40
POORMAN
Dennis 58
POWELL
George 21
Nathan W. 21
Otha 35
PRATT
A.W. 34
PRAY
Dan 49
Ed 49

QUIGLEY
Mr. 34
Garrett 34

RADCLIFF
J.F. 30
RALSTON
Sam 26
RANDOLPH
Beverly L. 33
James M. 33
RANT
U.S. 19
RAPP
Mr. 55
RAUB
Dr. 51
REMPIS
Lester 2
RENNER
John 49
REYNOLDS
Jennie 21
Walter 21,22
RHODES
Cecil 57
William 41
RICE
Libby 13
N.J. 50
RICHARDS
James 51
RICHARDVILLE
Joe 6
ROBERTSON
Collins 7
ROBINSON
Washington 40,41
ROBY
Judge Frank 30
ROCKFELLER
Dr. 49
RODEBAUGH
G. 33
ROGERS
Mr. 23
Joseph 30
Sylvester 18
William 7
ROTHCHILD
29
ROWE
James 52
ROWLEY
James 18
RUDD
Robert 18
RUDOLPH
Dr. 22
RUGMAN
Charles 18
RUTH
Dr. George 49

SACRED HEART
Hospital 35
SANDERS
Henry 55
SANDS
Mr. 8
SAVAGE
Mr. 7
SAWTELL
Joseph 37
SCHAAB
27
& Brother 19
W.H. 19
SCHAFFER
J.W. 27
SCHAUDEL
John 45
SCHLOSSER
Brothers 54
SCHOLES
Lizzie 8
SCHONTZ
Mr. 12
SEBRING
Dr. 12
SECHLER
Mille 8
SHEPPARD
Dr. Z.W. 29
SHAFFER
Christopher 18
William 12
SHAFFSTAHL
R. 50
SHARROW
Dr. 49,51
SHEFFER
Craig 58
SHELTON
Dr. William 41
SHERMAN
Dr. L.M. 34
SHERWOOD
George 2
SHIELDS
Jessie 50

SHOEMAKER
David 28
Harry 43
SHOOK
John 21
Nelson 13
SHONER
George 30
SHORT
Wesley 21
SHOWALTER
Dr. 30
SHOWERS
Solomon 10
SHULL
Fred 52
Joe 13
John 29
W.N. 7
SIDLE
Jacob 50
SINCLAIR
Brothers 29
SLATER
Melinda 39
SLYBAUGH
Jacob 55
SMITH
12
Allison 8
Cyrus 43
Dan 28
Francis 40
Isaac 43,46
J.L. 33
T.A. 34
SOMERS
James S. 30
SOUTHERLIN
A.J. 50
SPEARO
John 54
SPENCER
Col. John 37
SPRANKLE
Frank 21
SPROTT
S.W. 17
STAIR
Jacob 21
STAR
Bakery 34
STEAMS
Amos 56
STEAMS
James 56
STEFFY
Jake 54
STEIFEL
29
STEWART
Mr. 12
STORY
Augustus 15
Frederick 15
George 15,21
Samuel 15
Willard 15,21
STRAYER
John 49
STOUGH
Dr. Solomon 29
STROHL
H.H. 19
SWARTZ
Mr. 49
SWINK
Eliza 52
SYMINGTON
Al 8

TAPPAN
Leslie 21
THOMAS
Daniel 18
Hiram 21
THOMPSON
farm 2
TINKLEPHAW
Albert 49
TREESH
Peter 10
TRITCH
Billy 54
George 54
Pearl 54
TROUT
George 28
TROVINGER
& Co. 19
TURTLE
Chief Little 6
TUSTOSON
Sam 8

ULM
Nelson 39

UPMEYER
H.G. 34
UREY
Will 13

VanBUREN
Martin 16
VanPELT
H.W. 50
William 51
VELEY
27
VINTON
David 7

WAGNER
George 27
WALDEN
Ann Emeline 40
Ariel 24,40
WALLACE
William 29
WALSWORTH
Levi 23,28
WAREHAM
George 28
Worth 28
WASSON
Sam 38
WEARNER
George 22
WEBBER
Daniel 10
WEBSTER
Charles 21
William 21
WESTFALL
William 12
WATERMAN
Miles 28
WHITE
Brothers 49
WHITEMARSH
Dr. 51
WIDNEY
John P. 7, 40
Samuel 40
WILCOX
Pres 19
WILLIAMSON
Ely & Co. 29
WILLIS
& Co. 29
Henry 10

WILLS
Spencer 32
William H. 18
WILSON
George 7
John 18
Woodrow 13,51
WINSLOW
Dr. J.U. 29
WISE
Nettie 8
WISEL
51
Daniel 52,53
David 52
David Jr. 47
David Sr. 47
Otis 47,53
Otis Jr. 53
WOLF
George 28
WOODCOX
Audrey 8
WOODFORD
E.N. 55
WORK
Robert 24
WRIGHT
52
Ed 21,51
Henry 49,50
M.F. 50
WYATT
Isreal 57
WYRICK
Jacob 9,12

YATES
Judge 24
Thomas L. 6,24,36,
37,40
William 56
YORK
J.B. 32
YOUNG
Rev. August 45

ZONKER
Anthony 21

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